Manibusan says he didn't join Hawaii conference to save govt funds. PAGE 3
CHC Lab remains compliant with CMS. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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75¢

'Tourists' took risk working on Saipan

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Wang Feng Kai, Jang Xu, Jiang Jinxu, Heilong Jiang, and 76 others took a huge risk by coming to the CNMI and working as construction laborers even though they knew they would enter the CNMI as tourists and work illegally. And just like the construction workers at MCC International, they too allegedly have yet to receive their wages.

» 3rd batch of construction workers rally over nonpayment of wages

Imperial Pacific International CNMI tapped Beilida Overseas, MCC along, Gold Mantis, which hired Wang and his compatriots, as subcontractors to work on their multimillion-dollar Imperial Pacific Resort casino hotel project.

They became the third group to stage a protest yesterday after Sino Great Wall and MCC workers in December last year and on Friday, respectively. But unlike MCC workers, Wang and his colleagues didn't have their passports taken from them by their employers.

See TOURISTS on Page 4



JON PEREZ
Two of the 40 construction workers talk about their living conditions in their staff housing in China Town.

Construction workers lament deplorable housing conditions

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A strong and unpleasant smell—a mixture of stagnant rain water, sweat, and mildew—would greet you once you enter one of the staff housing of construction workers employed by Gold Mantis.

Forty workers are crammed in six rooms that only have at least 20 bunk beds, without proper ventilation. One room has an air-conditioning unit, while another has a small electric fan. The other 40 workers are in another staff housing.

They also need to line up everyday to take a bath or use the toilet before they go to work since there are only two bathrooms.

Heilong Jiang and Jiang Jinxu told *Saipan Tribune* that there are times that they experienced no water or electricity for two to three days in their housing that's why they have to use basins and pails to stock up on water.

They also have to get used to sleeping in the dark at night since there's no electricity. They only drink rainwater since no

See WORKERS on Page 4

Govendo finds Corrections officer Camacho guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo rendered yesterday his verdict finding Corrections Officer Ray Anthony Maratita Camacho guilty as to the charge of assault and battery for beating then-inmate Ryan Cavalear inside the Department of Corrections.

Govendo said grabbing Cavalear by the neck and putting him up on the floor does rise to the level of being unlawful.

"I wish that I did not have to find you guilty. I truly wish that. But like you, I took an oath to follow the law and I find you guilty of assault and battery," Govendo told the 37-year-old Camacho, who appeared listening intently to the judge.

Sentencing will be on June 6, 2017

See GOVENDO on Page 4



FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Corrections Officer Ray Anthony Maratita Camacho talks with his aunt, vice speaker Janet Maratita (R-Saipan), and a relative in the parking lot of the CNMI Judiciary complex in Susupe shortly after Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo rendered his verdict finding Camacho guilty as to the charge of assault and battery for beating an inmate at the Department of Corrections.

INSIDE



NATION
The suspect in the random killing of a retiree posted on Facebook made his living mentoring teens in Cleveland.

PAGE 15



North Korea
(Democratic People's Republic of Korea)
Founded: 1948
Leaders:
Kim Jong Un (2011-present)
Kim Jong Il (1994-2011)

ASIA
Vice President Mike Pence warned Pyongyang that after years of testing the U.S. and South Korea with its nuclear ambitions, "the era of strategic patience is over."

PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE
"The Fate of the Furious," the eighth movie in the "Fast and the Furious" series may have fallen short of $100 million in North American theaters.

PAGE 21

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Local

IN LIGHT OF ANOTHER WORKER PROTEST

Propst demands statement from Torres



ERWIN ENCINARES

Construction workers of Gold Mantis Construction hold a protest rally yesterday near the Garapan Basketball Court. Although the banner in the photo says "MCC," the Chinese characters written under MCC literally translates to Gold Mantis. The relationship between MCC and Gold Mantis Construction is still unclear.

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A member of the Legislature has come out and challenged Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and other leaders of the CNMI yesterday to step up and make a statement regarding the ongoing construction firm fiasco.

In line with yesterday's Gold Mantis Construction worker protest, Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), who was also present during the MCC International Saipan Ltd. Company's worker protest last Friday, told all members of the media yesterday that he demands a statement from Torres and Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero.

Propst questioned why Deleon Guerrero was silent on all of the happenings surrounding the ongoing casino construction, going so far as calling it a "black eye to the industry."

"Why is the executive director of the CCC so silent on all of this? I know that he has been lobbying for an extension on the casino extension and for other things but how can he turn a blind eye? How can he turn away when there are essentially crimes being committed? It's happening through the casino; sub-contractors should matter," Propst told the media yesterday.

According to Propst, vendors interested in setting up in the casino require to submit to a background check along with a lengthy 60-page application just to do business with the casino. Propst asked why there wasn't such "strict background checks for local companies doing business with the casino?"

"This is being broadcasted to the whole world," said Propst, citing major news organizations that have covered the casino construction in the past.

"I demand that the governor make a statement; that the CCC executive director start making statements about this. This is ridiculous already. We can't just turn a blind eye to this anymore," said Propst.

Propst told media yesterday that he was working on a formal letter to question CCC's actions—or lack of—regarding the pressing matters. According to Propst, CCC has stated that the construction workers were not under their jurisdiction.

"CCC has stated that this is really not their concern—that this is not their area and that this is the jurisdiction of other regulatory agencies. The last time Dept. of Labor Sec. Edith Deleon Guerrero [responded to the protests]," said Propst, later applauding the secretary for responding to the matter even though it was on Good Friday.

"The rest of the leadership of the CNMI cannot continue to turn a blind eye and pretend that this doesn't exist; it's really just insulting that here we are, an island trying to build a casino and yet we bring workers here illegally and are hired through companies that aren't vetted," he said.

Responding to CCC's claim that they were waiting for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conclude their investigation before CCC begins theirs, Propst said that's not soon enough.

"How proactive can you be? You have investigators. You are the CCC. You are a regulatory body. Look at the regulatory bodies in the U.S., Singapore, Macau, and all the other places and see if they fraternize with the licensees. See if they do that. Fraternizing with your very own licensee is absolutely wrong. Where is the code of ethics?" asked Propst.

2017 Flame Tree Festival to start tomorrow

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

The four-day 2017 Flame Tree Festival is scheduled to start this Thursday, April 20.

According to Blue Continent Communication vice president Gary Sword, there is much to expect from this year's improved version of the festival, which has relocated to the Garapan Fishing Base.

This year's festival will include many new activities for those who will come out and take part in the festivities.

Sword shared that this year's festivities will include a new segment called an audio-visual showcase. The showcase will be featuring films made by local artists from the high schools around Saipan such as Marianas High School and Mount Carmel School.

There will also be indigenous storytellers that will be present in this year's Flame Tree festivities. These storytellers will share stories pertaining to the indigenous Chamolinian culture.

This year's Flame Tree Festival will consist of 55 booths. Sword said 35 of the booths will showcase local artists and their work. The other 20 will be food vendors. This year, there will be a dedicated booth specifically for local foods.

There will be two special school performances from the island of Guam and one special school performance from the island of Palau.

According to Sword, there will also be master carvers that will be there to showcase their talents in carving cultural pieces.

This year, community members are to expect a special opening from sailors of the Sakman. Sakman is an indigenous canoe that will be sailed to Saipan all the way from the island of Guam. Sakman sailors are currently on the island of Rota and will arrive on Saipan for the opening night of the festivities.

The entire community is welcome to join the festivities and to enjoy all the cultural artists. The opening night of the 2017 Flame Tree Festival will be tomorrow, April 20.



CONTRARY TO ALLEGATIONS BY FINANCE SECRETARY

Manibusan says he didn't join Hawaii conference to save govt funds

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Contrary to allegations by Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, Attorney General Edward Manibusan has explained that he did not attend a conference in Hawaii last March because he did not want to spend an additional $2,730 of government funds to book a refundable ticket.

In a declaration issued last Wednesday, Manibusan said he was invited to attend the Council of Western Attorneys General Pacific Island Summit, which took place from March 14 to 16, 2017 in Honolulu.

Manibusan said he received two price quotes from Royal Travel Saipan Inc. for a ticket to Hawaii for the conference.

He said both flights went through Guam and that the cost for a non-refundable ticket was $1,670 and the cost for a refundable ticket was $4,400.

The AG said that last Feb. 15, after his lawsuit against Larson was filed, he requested a travel authorization for a ticket to Hawaii.

"I wanted to take a non-refundable ticket, but the Department of Finance would only allow me to use a refundable ticket," Manibusan said.


Manibusan

The AG said because he did not want to book a refundable ticket and spend $2,730 more of public funds, he did not book a flight.

Manibusan made the declaration in support of his opposition to Larson's motion to disqualify him from the lawsuit against her.

Manibusan's lawsuit seeks to enjoin Larson from paying the governor, lieutenant governor, and lawmakers the increased salaries found in Public Law 19-83.

Larson asked the Superior Court to dismiss the case and disqualify Manibusan from continuing as counsel or party to this lawsuit.

Larson hired former AG Matthew T. Gregory and attorney Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds as her counsel in this case. She stated in her declaration that she was forced to seek outside counsel at the expense of CNMI taxpayers.

In her declaration in support of her motion to disqualify Manibusan, Larson disclosed that upon initiating the lawsuit against her, Manibusan submitted a travel authorization to the office.

Larson said Manibusan refused to fly through Japan and stated he did not want to stay there overnight.

She said Manibusan's staff has been pushing her office to allow a direct flight costing $4,000 over a flight through Japan that costs $1,800.

She said Finance makes exceptions if the difference in ticket is a small amount.

"For tickets that have a significant price differences, DOF typically allows travel on the lower airfare," Larson said.

The secretary believes that it is unfair to force her to defend a statute when she has no opinion on the ultimate issues posed by Manibusan's lawsuit.

Manibusan's lawsuit alleges that Public Law 19-83, which provided the salary increases, is unconstitutional because the Advisory Commission that recommended such increase was not validly constituted, and that such increase recommended by the commission for the Legislature exceeded the change in an "accepted price index" since the last time the salary was adjusted.

Manibusan asked the court to issue preliminary and permanent injunctions to prevent Larson from implementing the law.

Hocog insists he's free again to move for dismissal of Yamamoto lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog has asserted that he is free to again move for dismissal of Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto's lawsuit once the latter filed his amended complaint against him and owners of cargo ship M/V *Luta*.

Hocog, through counsel F. Randall Cunliffe, said Yamamoto filed a complaint to which he (Hocog) filed a motion to dismiss it.

Cunliffe said subsequent to the filing of Hocog's motion to dismiss, Yamamoto filed a first amended complaint.

Cunliffe said the U.S. District Court for the NMI stated that because of Yamamoto's filing of the first amended complaint, Hocog's motion to dismiss was moot.

Hocog insisted his request to dismiss the first amended complaint in reply to Yamamoto's opposition to his (Hocog) motion to dismiss.

Citing a violation of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Yamamoto has moved to immediately dismiss Hocog's renewed motion to dismiss.

Yamamoto, through counsel George Lloyd Hasselback, noted that Hocog previously moved for dismissal of the lawsuit under Rule 12(b) and that motion was denied last March 8.

Hasselback said Hocog has moved again for dismissal under the same Rule 12(b) without any explanation as to why he should get another bite at the 12(b) apple so to speak.

In Hocog's reply yesterday to Yamamoto's opposition, Cunliffe said Hocog filed a motion to dismiss the amended complaint pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 8(a)(2) and Rule 9(b) for failure to verify the first amended complaint.

Cunliffe said Hocog has not filed a Rule 12(b)(6) motion as against the first amended complaint.

The lawyer said Hocog's motion goes to the first amended complaint and no such motion has been made as to the amended complaint.

Last Dec. 1, Yamamoto filed his first amended complaint that directly named Hocog, who as then-Rota

See HOCOG on Next Page

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TOURISTS

From Page 1

Their contacts in China even said to them not to ask any questions, don't talk to anybody, and just do what was told them what to do at the construction site.

It is not yet known if Gold Mantis is connected with Suzhou Gold Mantis Construction Decoration Co. Ltd. since they have the same company logo. Suzhou Gold Mantis designed and built the Beijing National Olympic Stadium, more popularly known as the Bird's Nest, the main hub of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

In 2014, an executive of the Suzhou City-based firm was arrested on alleged corruption activities with then Nanjing Mayor Ji Jianye.

Wang, through an interpreter, said they were recruited in different provinces in China where a "broker" from a recruitment agency tapped by Gold Mantis informed them that they would enter the CNMI as tourists under the China parole authority program.

"We were told by the agency that all documents that would allow them to work on Saipan would be processed here by our employer once we arrive. Some of us have been on Saipan for five months while others arrived 20 days ago," said Wang.

"We are no longer working since April 3 and they have not paid us from Feb. 27 to April 2. We're worried with our own safety and we don't know what will happen to us," added the 43-year-old native of Henan province.

Their employers promised them payment of at least 300 yuan or $43.55 for an eight-hour workday with an hour of overtime worth 1.5 times their hourly rate. Wang, however, said they are not getting any overtime pay.

The $43.55 rate for eight hours is only $5.44, which is lower than the $6.55 hourly salary that was also promised to them and the mandated minimum wage in the CNMI.

Jang, another worker, was even injured after getting burned while helping out at the cafeteria. He said that he is still feeling the effects of his injury.

Verbal contracts

Wang, who served as the spokesperson of the group, said they are demanding their employer pay them the $6.55 per hour rate as promised to them, return the other expenses that was deducted on their payroll, to have their wages paid when their employer informed them that they have to stop working, provide a return ticket home, and refund the $50 to $100 collected from them for their uniforms.

There was a report that Gold Mantis already has the money but they are still computing the salary of the workers so they would give them the exact amount.

Wang said Gold Mantis gave them a document on Monday night where they were asked to sign as proof that they had already received their salaries. The line that would have said how much they have received was left blank that's why they did not sign it.

They also did not sign a letter provided by their employer stating that they are no longer the responsibility of their employer.

Wang and his compatriots, however, only had a verbal agreement with the "broker" and hold no formal contract. They hold no contract since all of the promises and issues regarding their work were done verbally.

Statements

The Governor's Office finally broke its silence and issued a statement yesterday on the labor and immigration issues involving IPI's subcontractors.

The statement said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres continues to monitor the situation and join Belinda's employees' call of getting all wages the company owes to them.

"This issue highlights a concern Torres has continually made public statements about regarding the hiring of foreign workers who enter the CNMI as tourists since the details of these illegal practices were brought to light about a month ago," said the statement.

"The governor has met with Imperial Pacific, the airline industry, and relevant stakeholders to tell them this practice is not permitted and is to the detriment of the CNMI economy."

In the absence of full jurisdiction to curtail this practice among certain employers, the Governor's Office has reached out to the United States Department of Homeland Security to begin the process outlined under Section 287 (g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

INA's Section 287 (g) would allow the CNMI to enter into an agreement with the U.S. Attorney General to grant CNMI Labor officers authority to perform certain actions of federal immigration officers.

If granted, the CNMI can take proactive steps to ensure all employees working in the CNMI are legally authorized to work on our islands, and if they are not, enact penalties and deport the offenders.

"Gov. Torres will continue to work with the Legislature and the federal government to put forward the resources to penalize those who threaten to harm our community's progress," added the statement.

IPI chair Mark A. Brown, in an earlier statement, said they too are concerned on the situation of the workers hired by their subcontractors. He added reports of workers that break the law are also their concern.

Brown added IPI is willing to terminate contracts with construction firms if they fail to follow federal and local laws.

GOVENDO

From Page 1

at 1:30pm.

Govendo, however, disclosed that he does not intend to sentence Camacho to jail time at all.

Citing that it's dangerous and uncalled for, the judge said he is not going to send a DOC guard back to the prison, where he is tasked with watching the prisoners.

Assault and battery has a maximum sentence of up to one-year imprisonment.

Govendo said considering that Corrections Officer Admisen Dasio Haddy is still working at DOC, he would like to see Camacho keep his job.

"I don't know if that's possible whether that sends a wrong message out. And there's nothing I can do about it, but it could be both counsel to talk about it," he said.

The Office of the Attorney General also charged Haddy over the beating of Cavalear on April 1, 2016, but the Corrections officer signed a plea deal with the government and testified for the government during Camacho's trial.

Govendo said he realized why the government charged Camacho.

"The government is trying to send a clear message out there that this kind of stuff at the Department of Corrections is going to stop," Govendo said.

"As Camacho testified, this stuff goes on all the time at the Department of Corrections," said Govendo, adding that the defendant did not give details about the matter.

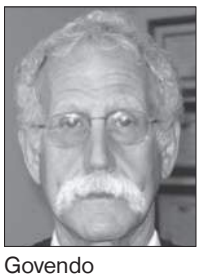
Cavalear claimed he is an Army veteran and broke his back during his military service. He was jailed at DOC for theft. He is about 130 lbs, while Camacho is about 300 lbs. Camacho's father, Board of Parole chair R.B. Camacho, watched the whole trial.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley, counsel for the government, in an interview said they are happy with the verdict. He said they are going to evaluate the presentence report that will be submitted in court by the Office of the Adult Probation.

Baisley said the fact that Camacho has no prior conviction and the fact that this is a misdemeanor assault and battery, it certainly weighed on defendant's favor.

Baisley said the fact that Camacho was entrusted to care for the people housed at DOC and was found guilty for mistreating an inmate would weigh against him.

"We're going to balance those things in making a decision," the prosecutor said, referring to the government's sentencing recommendation.



Govendo

Saipan Tribune failed to get comments from defense counsel Colin Thompson as he immediately left the courtroom.

The bench trial started last April 11. The trial was completed Monday afternoon, but Govendo rendered his verdict yesterday morning.

Before announcing his verdict, Govendo said he is going to start out by lecturing a little bit about the Department of Corrections, which needs help.

"It needs a lot of help starting right now, said Govendo as he urged the Office of the Attorney General to push for such training.

"And start pushing for it today. Training, training, and more training," the judge said.

Govendo cited that the government's witness, Department of Public Safety police director Pete Deleon Guerrero, and the defense witness, former Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Frank Ishizaki, stated that more training for DOC officers is necessary.

Govendo said it is obvious from this case that much more training is necessary.

The judge called on the government and let Attorney General Edward Manibusan himself to be the one to push for more training.

"Start pushing today, start pushing tomorrow. Do not take anything for granted," he said.

Govendo said as former DOC Commissioner Georgia Cabrera testified, when she was the shift commander at DOC she touched base on use of force.

"What is touching base have to do with the use of force? You train, you teach. Now you got some videos showing how not to use force. Use that as a training method," he said.

Govendo said let every officer and every inmate know that everything that goes on at DOC is being recorded and watched.

In Camacho's case, Govendo said a police officer noticed red markings on the neck of Cavalear, and he took pictures.

Govendo said the officer testified that when he took pictures, Cavalear was in pain.

Govendo said he examined the photos and found that certainly there are red marks.

He noted that here is nothing in the testimony that Cavalear did the marks to himself.

"I don't believe for one minute that those marks were caused by Mr. Cavalear himself," the judge said.

The video showed Cavalear being transferred from his cell to the holding area before going to pod cell.

Govendo said a Corrections officer testified that the defendant came to him and asked if he observed him slapping Cavelear.

"So obviously Mr. Camacho knew that he did something wrong by asking about that," Govendo said.

The judge said another witness testified that Cavalear was angry because he was not getting medicine and that Camacho was angry and not happy because he was not relieved from his post and had to stay back for four hours.

Govendo said a new Corrections officer testified that he knew about the use of force and testified that Camacho grabbed Cavalear in the neck.

"I consider this to be more of headlock because Cavalear was trying to move away from being taken off the bed and being handcuffed. But one way or the other it was grabbing his head and it should not have been done. Training, training, and training," Govendo said.

Govendo said Camacho has been a DOC officer for over 16 years and there has been no evidence brought about prior occurrences or similar acts.

I wish that this matter could have been handled internally by DOC without the necessity of a lawsuit or criminal charge being filed," he said.

Govendo said Haddy, whom he is more convinced hurt Cavalear much more than Camacho did, is still working at DOC.

Govendo said he watched one of the videos five or six times in which Camacho allegedly slapped Cavalear in the face.

Govendo determined it was not a blow, not a punch, but it was touching and that does not rise to a level of a crime.

Govendo said in that video it was Haddy who reached Cavalear up to his neck and also stepping on the inmate's foot.

However, the judge said, Camacho grabbing Cavalear by the neck and putting him up on the floor, does rise to the level of being unlawful.

WORKERS

From Page 1

drinking water is also provided to them.

And since they entered the CNMI as tourists, they only have one luggage with a few clothes and other personal items with them. All of them are now overstaying visitors since the Chinese parole program only allows them to stay for 45 days.

Heilong and Jiang were part of the more than 20 workers under construction firm Gold Mantis that held a protest yesterday. They first converged at Moonlight in Middle Road before heading toward in front of ABC Store in Garapan, a few feet away from the construction site of Imperial Pacific Resort.

Traffic police officer Juan Mendiola allowed them to stage their protest as long as their group won't block the store's entrance and would not disrupt their operations. He then asked the group to move to the Garapan Basketball Court since foot traffic is slowly increasing.

Heilong and Jiang said it is only on Saipan that they have known each other since they all come from different provinces—Changchun, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Shandong, and Shenyang—in China.

They paid a "broker" in China 10,000 to 70,000 yuan or $1,450 to $10,000 as recruitment fee and they were again charged another $1,000 upon arriving on Saipan. They were told they could stay and work for one to two years on Saipan since all legal documents would be processed here.

They said that they are still in constant communication with their families in China, but they have not told them of what has happened to them so they won't worry.

HOCOG

From Page 3

senator, allegedly promised to use his political position and influence to ensure that his (Yamamoto) investment in the M/V *Luta* was returned with profit.

Yamamoto's amended complaint has the same set of defendants and claims—breach of contract, fraud, and unjust enrichment.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog and the ship's owners for allegedly refusing to pay back the $3.4 million that he funded for the vessel.

CHC Lab remains compliant with CMS

More than three years after the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) lifted its suspension on the CHC's laboratory unit, Dr. Philip Dauterman, Lab Director, was pleased to receive word that the unit's certification has been renewed for another two years. The new Certificate of Compliance doesn't expire until April 2019.

"After years of hard work to get the lab back into good shape from where we were in 2012, I'm very proud of our unit for continuing to hold good standing with CMS," added Dauterman.

CMS regulates laboratories through what's known as CLIA, which stands for Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments. CLIA was passed by Congress in 1988 to establish standards for all non-research laboratory resting.

As a "non-CLIA waived" medical laboratory, the CHC Laboratory performs tests of greater complexity than the simple "waived" tests, and therefore must meet higher and stricter standards for compliance.

Waived tests such as pregnancy test, some urine tests, and fecal occult blood tests are those tests that are so simple and accurate, that they carry little risk of error when performed correctly. As the only full-service CMS certified non-CLIA waived medical laboratory in the CNMI, the CHC lab performed 1,987,868 tests in the last year. ***(CHC)***

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IT&E contributes $3.6K to Charity Golf Classic

Supporting the Hyatt Regency Saipan, IT&E contributed over $3,600 in cash and in-kind donations for the 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

John Compton, IT&E's chief operating officer, expressed that the contributions promote goodwill and collaboration.

"Hyatt Regency Saipan has been a major contributor to our community and IT&E continues to support these endeavors that benefit not only the Make-A-Wish Foundation but many other organizations that create a positive impact in our community," he said.

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick K. Nishikawa noted that IT&E shares in the mission to better the community amongst the longstanding businesses within the community.

"For over two decades the Charity Golf Classic has allowed us to partner up with several businesses and people in the community for a good cause. IT&E has provided support for many of our causes and we sincerely appreciate their contributions and look forward to our upcoming charity event," Nishikawa said.

If you'd like to learn more about IT&E CNMI products, services, or outreach stop by IT&E's Chalan Lau Lau Store on Middle Road or IT&E's Garapan store inside the TSL building. You can also log onto Facebook at IT&E CNMI or blog.ite.net. ***(IT&E)***

Film screening, discussion on indigenous healing traditions

The Haya Foundation, *Inetnon Åmot yan Kotturan Natibu/Mwiischil Safey me Kkoor Aramasal Falúw* and the Northern Marianas Humanities Council invite the public to the premiere screening and discussion of "*Amot Para I Hinemlo'ta*."


Lizama

"Amot Para I Hinemlo'ta" is a documentary film produced by Dr. Tricia A. Lizama from the University of Guam and is about the indigenous healing traditions featuring many of our healers throughout our islands. The 50-minute film will be followed by a discussion about the efforts to preserve traditional healing practices in the Marianas.

There will be two screenings this Saturday, April 22, at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theater in Garapan. The first screening is from 10am to 12pm and the second screening is from 4pm to 6pm. The screenings are free and open to the public.

For more information, please call Council staff at 235-4785. ***(PR)***

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY CLERK I

Announcement # JVA17-014
Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court
SAIPAN

DUTIES: This position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and the direct supervision of the Clerk of Court or his/her designee. The employee performs work in accordance with established policies, practices, and court procedures. The following are required duties:

- Receives, reviews, and records documents filed for hearings;
- Provides data entry of pleadings onto the court's case management system;
- Provides daily updates of pleadings and other caseload information for the assigned judge through the court's automated processes, including, but not limited to, the document imaging and online filing system;
- Assesses fines, receives and accounts for monies, issues receipts, prepares deposit slips and provides disbursements per court order or requests from customer service window;
- Prepares and maintains physical and electronic file folders for court cases, including tracking of all pleadings associated with individual cases files;
- Serves as a courtroom clerk when court hearings are in session, including, but not limited to, swearing in of witnesses, logging of all admitted exhibits, tracking all phases of a hearing on an index sheet for the recording counter, operating the electronic recording equipment, and providing continuous monitoring of the recording equipment to ensure the integrity of the record; and,
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus a minimum of three (3) years related work experience. There is a strong preference for those with work experience in the legal field and those with a Bachelor's Degree. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be $20,485 - $22,500 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at OPM offices in the CNMI, the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
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T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY MARSHAL I

For two (2) Positions
Announcement # JVA17-013/14
On the island of SAIPAN

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Director of Law Enforcement and Security in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Performs enforcement and execution of court orders and service documents such as jury summons;
- Performs court security duties required for judicial proceedings, protection of justices, judges, court staff, clients, jurors, witnesses, and judicial facilities; assists in the operation of the court's security control monitoring systems;
- Conducts inspection and screening of all persons entering the courthouse and prohibits the entrance onto the court's premises of any items that are restricted or prohibited; provides the public with direction and information on all public services locations within the courthouse;
- Prepares written reports of service and non-service documents, incidents, and other reports as required;
- Performs prisoner handling while awaiting court hearings; escorts prisoners to courtrooms and to holding cells as directed;
- Has knowledge of and follows courtroom directives;
- Completes annually all required training including firearms; complies to all procedures relative to the proper use, maintenance, and security of government issued firearms; and
- Performs other duties on the courthouse premises as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be $16,652 - $20,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
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michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

OVER DEFECTIVE RUNWAY REHABILITATION PROJECT

CPA also sues Maryland insurance firm

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is also suing a Maryland insurance company that provided performance bond for GPPC Inc., a contractor that is suing CPA for allegedly causing the company to incur $39 million in damages over an airport runway project.

In a third-party complaint, CPA, through counsel Robert T. Torres, is suing Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland for breach of contract, violation of the Consumer Protection Act, and for declaratory judgment.

Torres asked the Superior Court to hold Fidelity liable to pay CPA damages, interest, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Torres also requested the court to issue a judicial determination resolving the parties' dispute relating to the legal rights and duties of CPA and Fidelity with regard to the liability of Fidelity under the payment and performance bonds for GPPA's default in the project.

CPA embarked on a runway rehabilitation program dating back to 2002-2003 as part of an effort to address the aging runway at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

The rehabilitation program culminated with the award of a construction contract to GPPC Inc. in 2009.

The original consideration for the contract prior to the change of orders and supplemental agreements was $12,488,800.

Torres said that, on Sept. 18, 2009, GPPC contracted with Fidelity for the company to act as the surety for the required payment and performance bonds required by the runway project contract.

Under the terms of the payment and performance bonds, Torres said, Fidelity bound itself to CPA in the sum of $12.5 million.

Under the terms of the performance bond, Fidelity's obligation would be discharged if GPPC substantially and satisfactorily performed and fulfilled the contract and any amendments.

Torres said after execution of the original contract, the agreement was amended by a series of change orders and supplemental agreements.

Torres said GPPC failed to substantially and satisfactorily perform the contract.

The performance bond, he pointed out, does not place any obligation upon CPA to notify Fidelity of minor modifications and change orders.

Torres said Hofschneider Engineering LLC, through Takagi & Associates, notified Fidelity in an email communication dated May 23, 2014, to inform Fidelity of CPA's concerns with the pavement conditions of the runway under the project.

Fidelity, through its claims counsel, acknowledged receipt of the two emails from Hofschneider Engineering.

On Sept. 12, 2016, CPA issued a notice of termination and default to GPPC and copied Fidelity on the correspondence, terminating the contract with GPPC for default.

Fidelity responded through its claim counsel to CPA's claim for coverage under the performance bond, asserting that CPA modified the contract and dramatically increased the scope and value of the work to be completed without Fidelity's consent.

Fidelity's response asserted that the modification occurred after a large portion of the original bonded work was completed.

That response, Torres said, claimed that the modifications constituted a cardinal change to the bonded contract and fully released Fidelity.

Torres said Fidelity's response asserted a material alteration defense, which Fidelity claimed eliminated any and all exposure loss with regard to Fidelity.

Torres said Fidelity claimed that as part of its investigation, it had engaged Leo Daly & Associates to undertake its own investigation.

On Jan. 2, 2017, CPA, through legal counsel, responded to Fidelity's Nov. 29, 2016 letter, requesting clarification and confirmation on whether Fidelity was disavowing and rejecting the surety bond coverage and demand, including the original $12.4-million bond amount.

CPA additionally requested information regarding supplemental coverage for the change orders as to whether GPPC provided requests and if not, for Fidelity to confirm that GPPC never provided supplemental bond coverage for those change orders.

Torres said CPA further advised Fidelity that GPPC and CPA had already gone through the contract dispute resolution process, that GPPC continued to refuse to do the corrective work, and that CPA had terminated the contract for default.

Torres said CPA's communication to Fidelity made demand upon Fidelity for the corrective work through the bond coverage.

On Jan. 6, 2017, Fidelity, through its claims counsel, responded to CPA's communication, reasserting its cardinal change/material alteration defense, arguing that Fidelity had issued the bond securing the scope of work identified in the original contract.

Fidelity claimed that after GPPC had performed a substantial portion of the work under the original contract, CPA stopped GPPC's performance, changed the scope of the work, and thereafter entered into a series of change orders, which almost tripled the size of the original contract.

Torres said Fidelity argued that its investigation showed that the alleged runway defects related to the work added by CPA under the change orders without Fidelity's consent, and therefore Fidelity was not liable for any coverage on the bond.

Torres said Fidelity additionally confirmed that GPPC had never secured additional coverage from the surety for the subsequent change orders, and ultimately denied CPA's demand for Fidelity to complete the remedial work under the bond coverage.

He said Fidelity has rejected CPA's claim for coverage based on GPPC's default and is breach of its payment and performance bonds.

The lawyer said engaging in any act or practice which is unfair and deceptive to the consumer is unlawful under the CNMI Consumer Protection Act.

CPA has also filed a counterclaim against GPPC for breach of contract, breach of the implied duty of good faith and fair dealing, negligent construction, violation of the Consumer Protection Act, and fraud.

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

Charity Golf Classic receives generous in-kind donation from Docomo

Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic recently received a generous donations from platinum sponsor Docomo Pacific. The donation include two brand new Apple electronic devices—an iPhone 7 128GB with a retail value of $825 and an iPad Air 2 16GB with a retail value of $649.

Docomo Pacific also donated a Samsung Galaxy S6 valued at $499, two Docomo Pacific beach chairs, and two Docomo Pacific sunshades.

Understanding and sharing the mission of Hyatt, Docomo Pacific donated an additional $500 in cash to their in-kind sponsorship. An extremely generous gesture that is sincerely appreciated by Hyatt Regency Saipan and the six beneficiaries of the 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic.

The iPad Air 2 16BG will be the winning prize for one lucky lady golfer on the day of the tournament and the Samsung S6 will be a prize for the men's Champion Flight. All other cellular devices will be a part of the raffle and live auction to be held that night.

"We are happy to continue to support the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic. Hyatt Regency Saipan's way of giving back to the community and touching lives is aligned with Docomo Pacific's core values," said Docomo Pacific Saipan general manager Dino Manning.

The entity was first created as a merger among Japanese telecommunications company NTT Docomo, Guamcell Communications, and HafaTel in 2006. The acquisition and merge allowed NTT Docomo to invest and upgrade technological equipment in Guam and the CNMI to introduce faster capabilities of internet and cellular services. A few years later in 2013, Docomo Pacific merged with MCV Broadband allowing the organization to offer customers bundles of services inclusive of mobile, television, internet and telephone in Guam and the CNMI. Docomo Pacific continues to enhance and diversify the range of services to providing options for customers leading them into the future of technology.

"On behalf of Hyatt Regency Saipan, I extend our gratitude to Docomo Pacific's continued support for our golf tournament. It's through the generosity of local businesses like Docomo Pacific that we at Hyatt are able to continue to host our annual charity golf classic. As we move toward our goal to positively impact our community and enhance the lives of others, we are proud to work alongside Docomo Pacific," said Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick K. Nishikawa.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Docomo Pacific Retail Operations manager Conrad Sablan Jr., Docomo Pacific Customer Service representative Jamila Magofna, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of food and beverage Tyrell Pauling, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla, Docomo Pacific Saipan vice president and general manager Dino Manning, Docomo Pacific Customer Service representative Jacquelyn Ocaya, Docomo Pacific Enterprise Sales manager Joseph Torres, and Docomo Pacific Account Executive-Business Sales Kevin McCale.

All proceeds donated to the Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic will go to the event's six beneficiaries to include: Make-A-Wish Foundation, aiding them in their mission to grant wishes to children with life-threatening diseases; Kagman High School Million Dollar Club, supporting CNMI high school students in preparation and travel to higher education; Marianas Behavioral Health International, a rehabilitation center dedicated to provide support for those who want to make a positive change in their lives; Karidat Social Services, a local organization supporting the needs of the community; Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, which assists impoverished women and children of the CNMI; and the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, which has a goal to focus on supporting the education of indigenous cultures of the CNMI.

Grown in popularity over the years from being a fun golf tournament for Club At The Hyatt members to an island-wide charitable event; this year the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic turns 21—a special year that most either remember or don't for the same reasons.

Golfers are encouraged to invite a guest or two to the dinner banquet poolside, $35 per person inclusive of free-flowing beverages and a dinner buffet featuring Certified Angus Beef cuts. Raffle tickets in the amounts of $1, $5, and $10 will be sold for an array of prizes from designer handbags to high-end golf gear to round-trip tickets to the Philippines, Japan, Koream and Europe that will be paired with hotel nights in other Hyatt, Hyatt Regency, and Hyatt affiliate hotels. Prize packages as such will not be offered at any other tournament for the rest of 2017.

As of April 10, the Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic has successfully sold out 150 player slots. Special thanks to the early bird registrants and sponsors. If you are still interested in playing, call 234-1234 ext. 26 to get on the waiting list prior to April 17, 2017 to avail the early bird rate should a slot open up and receive a call from us directly.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will hold its 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic event this Saturday, April 22, at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort west course. For more information please contact 234-1234 ext. 26. ***(PR)***

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Community garden donated to JKPL

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

The public library had a ribbon cutting ceremony during the proclamation ceremony for National Library Week.

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library successfully opened the newest exhibit and the newest extension to the library, a community garden.

Imperial Pacific International donated the garden to the library in commemoration of National Library Week.

Imperial Pacific Corporate Social Responsibility executive director Geralyn DelaCruz explained that Imperial Pacific is a community partner of many agencies, the public library being one of them.

According to DelaCruz, Imperial Pacific donated laborers and supplies to build the garden.

"We have people who have knowledge on planting and building planter boxes…we also collaborated with the library and came out and we all worked together to make this possible," said DelaCruz.

According to DelaCruz, the cost of the donated garden was less than $100, "all the materials that we've used were all recycled materials from our previous projects and I am proud to say that," said DelaCruz.

She hopes that the community will take part in marinating the community garden so that it may serve its purpose.

Imperial Pacific's purpose for the garden is for children and people of the community to visually learn how crops are grown and how it is maintained.

JKPL acting director Erlinda Naputi explained that to the library, the garden symbolizes growth in everything, most especially knowledge.

"Knowledge never stops growing and having a garden in the library is proof that we want the children and the community to continue to grow," said Naputi.

The garden is also helpful in encouraging healthy eating for the community, according to Naputi.

The first ever harvest from the library's garden will be donated to the *man'amko*, according to Naputi. She said it is to show respect for the elders. Where the next harvest of produce will go has yet to be discussed by the library in partnership with Let's Move Marianas.

Naputi hopes library staff will tend the garden with the help of the community. Imperial Pacific will also come down to help from time to time to maintain the community garden.

Funds needed to maintain the community garden would come from the Division of Agriculture as well as the community, according to Naputi.

JKPL welcomes all community members who are interested to see the community garden.

Nearly 50 companies will be at NMC's Career Fair

Nearly 50 companies have confirmed their participation in the Northern Marianas College's Career Fair that will be held on April 27 at Saipan World Resort, Royal Taga Ballroom from 9am to 12pm.

The companies and organizations who have confirmed to be at the Career Fair Day include 500 Sails, Ajisen Ramen, Kanoa Resort, Atkins Kroll Saipan, Century Tours, CGC-Systems of Care, Cha Café & Bakery, Civil Service Commission-OPM, CNMI Public School System, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Department of Labor-WIA, DFS Saipan Limited, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Hard Rock Café Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, IHOP, Imperial Pacific International, Island Training Solution, IT&E, J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc., Kalayaan, Inc., Kan Pacific Saipan, Kensington Hotel, Marianas Medical Center, Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc.,NMC Business Department, NMC Human Resources, NMC Recruitment Team, NO KA OI Termite and Pest Control, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Pacific Health, Inc., Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc., POI Aviation, Quality Water Laboratory, Saipan Computer Services, Inc., SHEFA, Sorensen Media Group, Transcend IT Solutions, Triple J Saipan, Inc., and Saipan World Resort.

All job seekers in the community are invited to attend the Career Fair and to make connections with prospective employers.

Those who plan on attending the Career Fair are encouraged to dress appropriately as if they would for an actual job interview, since some employers may be interviewing applicants on the spot. Attendees should also bring copies of their resume to hand out at the Fair.

To prepare NMC students for the Career Fair and for the realities of job hunting, the College's Career Center has organized several career preparation workshops that are also free and open to the public. The workshops include resume writing, mock interviews, and how to dress properly for an interview.

To find out more about the ongoing workshops, contact Neda Deleon Guerrero at 237-6759 or email neda.dlguerrero@marianas.edu or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Payment Procedures for DCRM Permit Fees

CNMI Administrative Code §15-10-205(f) requires all Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) permit applications to be accompanied by a non-refundable DCRM permit application fee in accordance with the fee schedule set. All payments are to be remitted to the CNMI Treasurer.

Effective March 20, 2017, all DCRM permit applicants are required to obtain a payment voucher from DCRM before remitting payment for any and all application fees to the CNMI Treasurer. All payments made to the CNMI Treasurer must be accompanied by a DCRM payment voucher. DCRM will require all receipts of transactions to be accompanied by a payment voucher when submitting any and all applications.

/s/Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-04
SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 5, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "G" VEHICLE (4X4 Pick-up Truck) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-SAR-124 (1-8)
SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 05, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF GAS POWERED GROUNDS & BUILDING MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENTS FOR THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301 CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ YVETTE R. SABLAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) for Fermina G. Shimizu

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Fermina G. Shimizu is requesting to rezone Lot 1734New-4-R2 in Chalan Kiya from "Rural" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to construct and operate a warehouse facility.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: May 18, 2017
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room
2nd Floor, Joeten Dan Dan Commercial Building

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 17, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Navy to conduct training at former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course, Agat Bay

ASAN, Guam—The Navy will conduct parachute operation training at the former Adm. Chester Nimitz Golf Course and Agat Bay during the following dates and times:

- April 21 from 6am to 1pm at the former Adm. Chester Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada
- April 23 from 9am to 6:30pm in Agat Bay

These trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the trainings.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

Agat Bay is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 23"N/144° 35"E.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

Walk & Roll Against Sexual Violence today

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence is inviting community members to take part in the Walk & Roll Against Sexual Violence today, April 19, in Chalan Kanoa.

Registration will start at 5m at the Saipan Memorial Leadership Courtyard across the USPS building with the event starting at 5:30pm. The first 100 individuals to register will also receive a free T-shirt.

Walk participants are also highly encouraged to create signs or banners to help spread awareness on Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which is this April, and on sexual violence and/or to help show support for victims and survivors. This year's theme for the CNMI is "Engaging All Voices."

For more information, contact NMCADSV at (670) 234-3878 or email info@endviolencenmi.org. For more news and updates, follow NMCADSV on Facebook, Twitter (@endviolencenmi) and Instagram (@nmcadsv). ***(PR)***

Air Force, Navy to conduct training at FDM, W-517

ASAN, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla April 17-21 from 9am to 6pm.

The Navy will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) during the following dates and times:

- April 19 from 10am to noon
- April 20 from noon to 4pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, provide sufficient room to conduct the many training profiles required to support aircrew combat readiness requirements.

During the dates and times indicated for W-517, Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are not open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10"N/144° 30"E, 13° 10"N/144° 42"E, 12° 50"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/144°45"E, 11°00"N/143° 00"E, 11° 45"N/143° 00"E, 12° 50"N/144° 30"E.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

Singapore Air Force to conduct training in CNMI

ASAN, Guam—The Republic of Singapore Air Force will conduct training at the Saipan, Tinian, and Rota airports April 17-19 during daylight hours.

RSAF aircraft will use established approach air corridors at least 300-500 feet above ground during the dates indicated. Air corridors are air traffic control designated air routes of travel for use by aircraft.

Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the trainings.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

CNMI MSU Brigade JCLC a success



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI MSU Brigade held its annual JROTC Cadet Leadership at Saipan Southern High School beginning April 13.

Last April 13, the CNMI MSU Brigade started its yearly JROTC Cadet Leadership at Saipan Southern High School and was hosted by Saipan Southern High School.

MSU stands for multiple school unit headquarters.

A total of 25 selected cadets from each battalion were present, including the instructors and some chaperones.

On their first day, the cadets of Rota High School and Tinian High School came to Saipan. The rest of the cadets on the scene first set up their tents and were briefed about what to do during their stay at the camping grounds. SSHS and THS were in charge of leadership and entertainment that day

Their second day consisted of physical training and learning survival skills. For their PT they had a Half Mile Esprit De Corps Run led by the Manta Ray Battalion in the morning. After PT, the cadets changed into their Army Combat Uniforms for round-robin stations.

The round robin consisted of Rope Bridge, Knot Tying, Leadership Reaction Course, First-Aid, Hasty Rappelling, and Land Navigation. Night entertainment was provided by the cadets of Rota High School and Kagman High School

On their third day, Marianas High School was in charge of leadership. The cadets loaded their stuff into buses to head down the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool for water activities training. They were then divided to two groups, the first group learned how to make their rucksacks into floatation devices, and the second group learned how to make floatation devices out of their ACU's. After that they had one male cadet and one female from each battalion for a 50m swim race. The winner for the males is Cadet Kaito Yanai from KHS and the winner for the females is Cadet Katherine Illahi from MHS.

The cadets went back to the camping site for a few sports competitions. Taking home the first place trophy for volleyball is THS and taking home the first place trophy for basketball is KHS. That night MHS was in charge of entertainment.

On their last day, the cadets had breakfast, cleaned the camp grounds, and bid each other farewell. Tinian deployed back first followed by Rota.

According to Manta Ray Battalion Senior Army Instructor Command Sergeant Major Basa the JCLC has been going on for 25 years. "It has been around since the first establishment of JROTC in MHS."

Next year's host for JCLC will most likely be the MHS Dolphin Battalion. ***(Mackenzie Perez)***

Corporate Challenge set for May 28

The 17th Annual Corporate Challenge will be held on May 28 at Minatchom Atdao in Susupe.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is inviting Chamber member businesses to join in the competition to win the title of Corporate Challenge champions.

Last year, the Corporate Challenge attracted nine registered teams. Team IPI #01 of Imperial Pacific took first place winning a several prizes, a trophy, and a year of bragging rights. In second place was Fiesta Resort "Fiesta Rockers" who demonstrated athleticism and teamwork.

The "Team Spirit" award was won by Hyatt Regency Saipan for the third consecutive year. Trailing closely behind Hyatt Regency was Team Delta Management, who put on an amazing show of spirit and had the favorite team chant. DFS, the 2015 Corporate Challenge champions, had an amazing tent display creating a unique experience for all participants offering games and prizes. Bank of Guam dominated the Tug-of-War game and beat out all other teams. IT&E showcased technology at its finest with the costume entered into the costume portion of the competition.

The Chamber is now accepting company team registrations. Space is limited to the first 14 registered teams. The deadline for registration will be on May 19 at 5pm. To register now, or for more information, please call 234-7150 or e-mail administrator@saipanchamber.com for more information or visit www.saipanchamber.com.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit organization with over 165 member businesses, which is aligned to make a difference in the business community of our island. The office is located at the Marianas Business Plaza Suite 315, 3rd Floor. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-007

CUC FACILITY FENCE REPAIRS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the repair of security fences for multiple Saipan water facilities in need of fence repairs due to damage caused by typhoon Soudelor.

This project is funded by the United Sates Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-007, CUC Facility Fence Repairs"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 28, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and *Performance bond* must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on April 17, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-012

TASI LANE ROAD IMPROVEMENT, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Tasi Lane Road Improvement, Saipan** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 5 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **April 21, 2017, 9:00 a.m, local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 8, 2017 to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.
The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids, The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-17-IFB-012**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time May 11, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 11, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 11, 2017 and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **May 22, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, May 25, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on May 11, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Trump takes on a UN agency

Across the globe, women and girls trapped by poverty and war struggle to get health care when they are pregnant and contraceptives when they don't want to become pregnant. Many face violence in refugee camps, endure female genital mutilation, risk being married off as children or lack things as basic as sanitary pads. The United Nations Population Fund, which subsists on the voluntary contributions of U.N. member nations, has been in existence for nearly 50 years to tackle these and other problems.

Yet the U.S. decided recently to pull all of its funding for the agency — a foolhardy and unnecessary move. The State Department invoked the Kemp-Kasten Amendment of 1985, which bars U.S. aid to any organization that the president determines supports or participates in coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization. The funding got pulled because the U.N. agency works in China — one of 150 countries where it operates — which has a coercive family planning program. The U.S. rightly denounces China's forced "family planning" practices as violations of human rights. And if the Population Fund were somehow facilitating that policy, it might deserve to have its funding yanked. But it is not.

Not only does the Population Fund decry such practices, it has called on China to dismantle its coercive family planning program. (In fact, the agency deserves some credit for moving China away from its one-child policy to its two-child policy. Still bad, but less restrictive.) Besides, none of the money the U.S. gives to the U.N. fund is allowed to be spent in China, for exactly this reason. Nor is any money from any contributor spent on elective abortions anywhere.

So in order to make an empty, symbolic statement about China, the U.S. is pulling money that goes to efforts like this: maintaining the only maternity hospital in the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan, where more than 7,100 babies have been delivered since 2013.

In the immediate future, the Population Fund will keep the maternity hospital open with emergency contingency funding, but it will have to scramble to cover staff salaries.

The U.S. funding also supports reproductive health care (excluding abortion), gender-based violence prevention and counseling, and prevention and management of sexually transmitted infections in that camp and other sites in Jordan.

In Syria, U.S. funds go to mobile clinics, training of staff, and essential medicines and health care supplies in areas where existing health facilities have been damaged and resources are already strained by an influx of internally displaced people. Funds also support 42 health facilities and 32 mobile teams in 10 Syrian governorates.

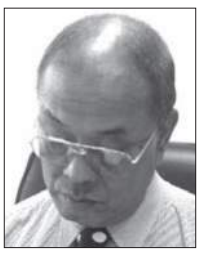
In Sudan, without U.S. dollars, Population Fund officials say they will have to cancel obstetric fistula repairs for women whose bodies have been injured during childbirth.

The Population Fund's 2016 budget was $842 million. The U.S. — not the largest donor — contributed just over $69 million. The Population Fund hopes to make up about half of that with other donations. The agency spends less

See TRUMP on Next Page

Man-ñahlalañg

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Maila` ta chage bumisita man-ñahlalañg na asuntu siha pa`gu na biahe. Tat mas mauleg ke mañge` na chaleg. Ha funas todu chathinasso-ta ya hana` ñahlalañg siñiente-ta. Paire na etsisiu piot na tiempu `nai kada ta bira hit puru trompison dibi yan estotbu.

Man-seda` hit eskusu na gigon tafana` seriosu siha na asunto-ta `nai ensegidas ta annunsia, "I problema `nai". Gigon man-machanda hit satbasion, ta ta`lun rumepite, "I problema `nai". Dimas de uma-aregla i chinatsaga sige mañguentos fabulas de chispas! Dios mihu!

■■■

Humalum si Pedro Malas gi konfesinariu. Mabendise dispues sige kumonfisat. Mientras tantu sige si pale` ha yeñgyuñg iluña. Piniloña na ine`ekuñgog-gue as pale`. Mana`e pinetensiaña.

Mientras mananaitai humuyuñg si pale` ginen konfesinariu. Estaba headphone gi talañgaña. Era ume`ekuñgog dandan gi iyoña CD player. Ilegña si Duñg, "Pinilog-hu na guahu ha e`ekuñgog lau i dandaña, pindehu!" Humanau para i gima` fumofofu sa` ha suspecha na ti ma asi`igue` ni isauña.

■■■

Ma-utut pagamientun konsutadot politika gi un` kompania. Sige man-afaisen haf` guaha. Mahuñgog na ti machochogue man-matagu` niha.

Mamaisen unu haf` na tinagu` guaha. Ineppi ni kakama`gas na an man-matagu` debi umachogue che`chu` niha.

Gi kadada` na esplikasion ilegña i kakama`gas, "`An hu tagu` hamyu para in` fan man-galopi, ensegidas faisen-yu` taimanu na tinatkilu`". Dios mihu!

■■■

Sumugu si Duñg yan Iku gi fina` hatdin gi hiyuñg pettan i lañget. Estaba guihe un` amku` chumuchupa. Umañañgun i dos para uma-atulaika na`an niha `an humalum siha guatu gi lamasan man-husga.

Humalum si Juan kadu` si Duñg ya mata`chuñg gi menan San Pedro. Sinañgane na u huyuñg ya u sedi si Duñg humalum. Ha sañgane si Duñg na magacha` siha. Masentensia i dos sais años ta`lu giya potgatoriu! A`saina, tatnai mauleg che`chu` pitbetserias!.

■■■

Este i mama` sabiu guaha `nai ti sen mauleg. Mana`e un` sindalu katta para u translada para i nanan amiguña. I saludu ilegña, "Dear Mom". `Nai matranslada ilegña, "Binadu Nañg". Ti mana hanau i katta!

■■■

Man-hanau un` familia para Disneyland. `Nai man-mattu gi lugat estaba un` tablon ilegña, "Disneyland Left". Duru i famaguon mañgate sa` ma`pus hun esta i Disneyland. Dispues `nai marepara na direksion i intension matuge` gi tablon.

■■■

`Nai humanau un` tihun mame yan lahiña gi kareta, sumaga gi Stop Sign pues ha annunsia, "Spot". Sinañgane ni lahiña na "stop" i dinanche na palabra. Ilegña, "Karahu, hagas-yu empleao NTTU ya para un` fana`gue-yu` fuminu` Eñglis?" De dios! ***

Ha rekomenda amiguhu Miget na bai gigimen "esu" (Ensure) sa` mauleg alimentoña. Esu? Kase dinancheña esuk—mahotnun lemai ni mana` añglu`.

■■■

Hu soda amiguhu Tagalu gi kantun chalan yinite` ni karetaña. Animu i prohimu muna` kelala` lau no siakassu. I binibuña ha domu` papa` makinan karetaña. Hu ofresi maudai, ilegña, "Depend for you!" Tiha komprendi finaisen-hu. Dios mihu!

■■■

Este peskan do`du (liliku` achu`) sumen na`mamahlau. Manfaye na guihan kontra haf` peligru. Gigon humihut hau manmalagu guatu gi papa` otru achu`. Sessu hu huñgog na estague` na klasen katokcha` lagse` usuña gi hegsu` I Deni`. A`saina!

■■■

Huli`e amiguhu Bangladesh man-dadagau talaya kinibrutu. Hu faisen haf` ha dadagau. Ilegña guihan. Tiha tuñgu` tumalaya. Lau manadan hanum tasi ha rikohe dispues de lumauya kattan yan luchan! Puti poble lau putiña kaduku!

■■■

See MAN-NAHLALANG on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our immigration woes

The United States was founded by immigrants, people who were not, originally, from America. Even the Native Americans, the Algonquin, the Winnebago, the Apache, the Navajo, the Hopi, did not discover America.

Historians say that these people we called Native Americans, came from Asia via the Bering Strait. Even the name "America" was given to the land by the Italians honoring Americus Vespucci. I say they were all migrants.

Even our indigenous Chamoru came from Asia, so I was told. Immigration. Emigration. Migrant. Emigrant. What are these related words and definitions that got us fuming against the United States for coming here and snatching our immigration system from us?

So I ask what is emigration? Well, emigration is that group of people leaving their native country to settle in a new country. And what is immigration? Immigration is a group of people arriving in a country foreign to them.

And what is migrant? Migrants are people moving periodically from one region to another in search of work. Why do people leaving their country, like leaving Nepal to come to Saipan, Hawaii, mainland U.S.A, etc.? I guess the motivating force for immigration was privation and persecution. To escape adverse conditions in their country of origin. To look for a better quality of life, or to join their families already settled elsewhere.

Immigration has always been difficult. People leave their properties, absorb enormous travel expenses, leave the old job and friends, etc. At the new found place, they also find it a bit difficult. Look for a job, an abode, be a migrant worker, face racism, learn the new language, etc.

That's why South Americans leave their homes to go to U.S. in search of better wages and other better opportunities than what they left behind. I would assume that's why the CWs find it hard to leave Saipan which can be a stepping stone to a better life on Guam, Hawaii, or the mainland. In Hawaii and Fremont, California, alone, there are more than 100,000 Filipinos working in like Walmart, J.C. Pennys, Starbuck, etc. In Fremont once, a Filipino was elected mayor of that city.

Now Donald Trump's campaign plank, immigration, is to prevent illegal entries through strict immigration guidelines, including banning entries of travelers from several Muslim countries. The high Rio Grande wall, stretching from San Diego to Brownsville is to ascertain security along the U.S. southern border, thus, preventing thousands undocumented workers from "stealing" jobs from ordinary Americans. Some people are just merciless and unforgiving.

Sounds idealistic but in the 21st century, economies around the world are inter-dependent on each other. This includes a major factor in any economy, people. Most companies that employ people do understand about economics. It's a do-or-die scenario. They will always find ways to reduce their costs, add overheads that drive up prices, while reducing the company's profits. This is the essence behind maintaining a sensible workforce with manageable wages. Not too long ago, our garment industry knew that by using cheap labor from China ($3.05/hour), they were able to not only export to the U.S., but compete and beat garment companies in the U.S. who were paying their employees a lot more than $3.05/hour. The retail outlets and garment companies saved on their costs and made a killing in profits. This unfortunately led to the uproar by the garment industry in the mainland U.S.A., which got congressional attention and the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 became reality. In reality, the garment industry here competed with the garment industry in the mainland by putting up products here, which were a lot cheaper than those in the mainland. This resulted in demonstrations in Seattle and San Francisco in front of the big-named retail outlets selling garments made here.

WTO was also a target of the demonstration. At one of the demonstrations in Seattle, U.S. Congressman G. Miller from Concord was in the frontline supporting the demonstration. So the domino effect sets the downfall of our greatest economic source, the garment industry. Complaints about contract workers mistreatments, labor law abuses, overstay, immigration law abuses, fenced-in of employees compound, including the detention and rape of a Filipina on Rota for about three weeks, against her will, all funneled in to give U.S. Congress and certain federal government agencies reasons to intrude into our Commonwealth and to take control of the immigration functions.

All these complaints about abuses, left and right, accumulated, and we lost control of our immigration system. The garment industry on Saipan was no longer viable and as it drew down we stood by and watched, helpless and quiet. What followed were abandoned buildings and lost revenues as our economy bottomed out. Fast forward to the present date. We are now at the mercy of the federal government because it controls our immigration. These labor abuses and immigration rules and laws violation are not new. They have existed since before 1990s. At that time, newly-elected governor Froilan Tenorio and Washington delegate John N. Babauta appeared before the Senate Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development and Production, chaired by Sen. Dan Akaka of Hawaii, and tried to defend the CNMI against a multitude of accusations of abuses and violations. Sub-committee Chairman Akaka told the two CNMI officials that if the promised reform failed, then the committee would go in and take over the immigration function.

I ask now, have we stopped abuses of employees, which we were being accused of committing? I cannot ask about the immigration reform progress because it's gone. The U.S. did come and did take over the immigration function. And I ask why did the U.S. do that? Immigration function is ours. We told the U.S. we were keeping it. Now, look at what's happening. We are being forced to contend with the CW program's bureaucratic application process, its caps and the 2019 scheduled termination date of the program. What does that mean? Unless the federal government softens its view and caves in to return the immigration function, and the CW program, all of the CW1 workers and their CW2 family members will leave, thousands of them, breaking up families in the process. However, remember that children born here of alien workers are U.S. citizens, and their alien parents become Immediate Relative. So the familial integrity remains because of their change of circumstances. These IRs don't have to leave. That issue was clarified before Sen. Akaka's subcommittee back in 1990s, and by GAO and DOJ. Now, if there is a wholesale exit of CWs, many local projects may not be finished or even get off the ground. Much of life that locals now take for granted may disappear—trash collection, bottled water delivery, restaurant F&B, nurses, and CUC-CWs and other services, down to zero, unless they can be replaced now.

Economy-wise, people contribute directly to our economy through income taxes, and indirectly when they go shopping, pay for gas, pay CUC, medical treatment, etc. Just like anywhere else, whenever a substantial number of consumers leaves, revenues decline, the revenue source is gone. Operations downsize, employees may get their walking papers. There may be an immediate drops in revenue which means payroll may be missed, slow services, and the millions (billion plus dollars is more like it) will not be paid while the liabilities skyrocket with interest. End result—missed payroll means substantial bankruptcies on loans, and foreclosure notices issued and "Ripos" visit by financial lending institutions. Bankruptcy? We may not be able to avoid it. So, how do we prevent these from happening? First, let's try and take the immigration system back. The system belongs to us, even today. How so? We never let it go. We did not include that in the political status negotiation. We told the U.S. negotiators we wanted to retain "immigration," and the U.S. negotiators agreed and both houses of the U.S. Congress were made aware of it, and they agreed. Froilan Tenorio's and John N. Babauta's persuasions were good enough. So, immigration was not on the negotiation table. That's why our Covenant does not show anything to the contrary. So, in all seriousness, the immigration system is ours *ab initio*.

Now, on the CW progress, let's hope that the U.S. Congress acts favorably on Kilili's bill to increase the CW program cap from 12,998 to 15,000. Bad news though—Kilili's bill was for FY 2017. It should ask for a longer than 12-month period, and a higher cap with explicit language for an extension of the CW program itself. We should also ask Congress to repeal S.2739 of U.S. Public Law 110-229. Congress has total jurisdiction on immigration. The Executive Branch agencies are just enforcers. So we should approach the proper congressional committee and sub-committee and present our best persuasive reasons for asking the return of our immigration system. Governor Froilan Tenorio and Washington delegate John N. Babauta, in the 1990s, did that, and subcommittee chairman Sen. Dan Akaka was pleased, and we retained immigration, exclusively. However, should that fail, we should ask the District Court to review and certify the constitutionality of S. 2739 of PL 110-229. Is that all right? And, is it all right with you if we hold on to the CWs for the time being, until something better comes along? Think about it, Saipanese.

Rudolfo M. Sablan
Garapan

MAN-NAHLALANG

From Page 10

I finu` tautau gi oriya entre `agañg `sino silensiu. I `agañg i banidosu. Pa`gu i silensiu tomtum, kabilosu yan menhalom. I segundu `nai mas hu adahe-yu` sa` gigon umadiñgan nahuñg teñguañg kontodu para i gima`!

■■■

Gi mapos na sakan duru hu botleha i asaguahu pot hana` matanum choda siha gi oriyan guma`. Pa`gu na sakan, ti siñayu` kumuentus sa` bulan aga` gi pachot-hu ginen tinanomña choda. Kulan taftaf hu chalegua`-yu`. A`saina!

■■■

`Nai hu bisita un` tiahu, hanayane-yu` hinegsa` yan kadun guihan. Dispues ilegña, "Kadu hau". Sige chaka chaleghu ni fino`ña. Hombre pa`gu hu huhuñgog ayu na finu` Chamorro. Dios mihu!

■■■

Pot primet biahe tumunog batkon airen Continental 727. Mamila i tautau gi kantun kolat man-ega`. `Nai ha biragueˋ ruplanu para u hanau ha guaife todu i mandikiki` na achu` yan potbus ya hana` fañochu todu i man-e`ega`. Dios tiampare na mirienda!

■■■

`Nai in` chage usun sesi` yan tenedot (trastes lamasan chumochu) gi fina` sena gi Junior/Senior Prom diberas na manadan chaleg. Kontodu ice cream in` chachag ni sesi` kobiettu.

I famalao`an ti mapula` guantes niha (white gloves) `nai mafasensini i hinetnun manog. Todu aplacha`! Ai, lastima para bai`n banidosuye na man "mukanu" ham lokue`. Dios mihu!

TRUMP

From Page 10

than $2 million in China.

What's happening is part of an ongoing battle in which the agency has been used as a political football. Since 1985, Republican administrations have invoked Kemp-Kasten to withdraw funding — or part of it — and then Democratic administrations have read the law differently and restored the funding.

House members and Senators have written letters to the secretary of State urging him to reverse his department's decision. He should do so as soon as possible.

Just a few months ago, the Trump administration took an even more disturbing step: It re-established the so-called global gag rule — prohibiting U.S. aid to any organization doing health care work outside the U.S. if that organization also provides abortions or offers abortion counseling.

There are plenty of ways for the U.S. to limit how American aid dollars are spent — without slashing all funding from organizations working in desperately poor, underserved and conflict-torn areas of the world.

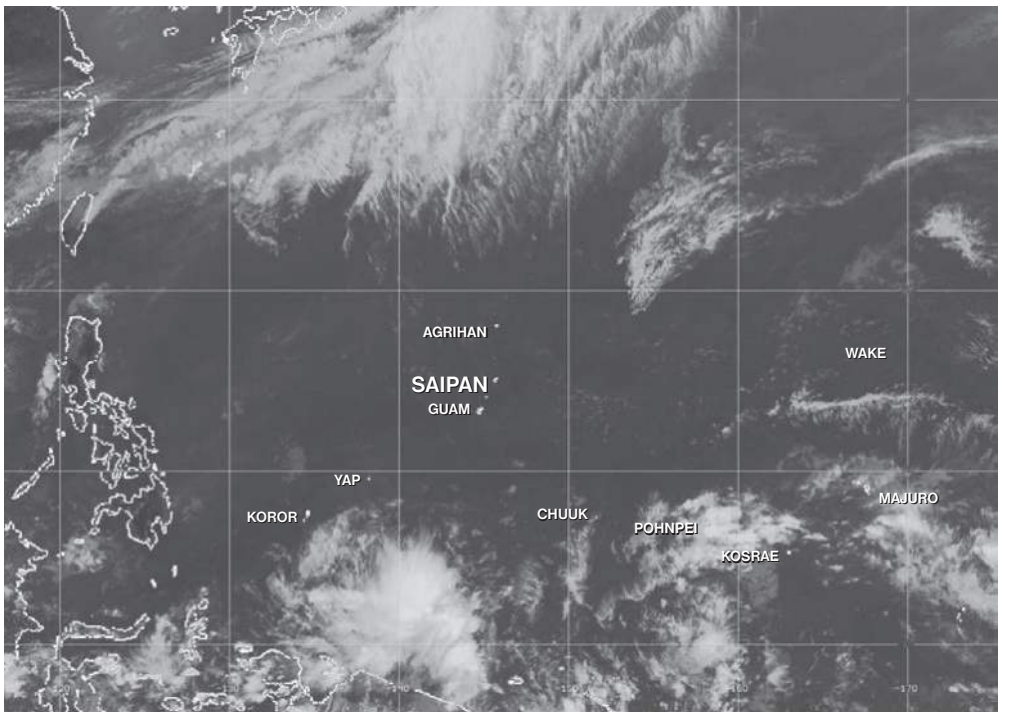
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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Sunshine and clouds mixed.	Intervals of clouds and sunshine.	Chance of a shower or two during the morning, followed by partly cloudy skies in the afternoon.	Mostly sunny skies.	Scattered showers and thunderstorms.
▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲86° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:50 AM, TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

High pressure aloft well west of the Marianas will shift to the east over the next several days maintaining a relatively dry pattern through the weekend. Moisture from the south and southeast will move toward Guam providing an increase in cloud cover beginning Thursday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	89 | 79 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	85 | 77 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	86 | 71 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85 | 79 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85 | 78 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85 | 79 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84 | 79 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Sunny	66 | 57 °F
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	69 | 46 °F
Hong Kong	Sunny	82 | 75 °F
Honolulu	Sunny	84 | 71 °F
London	Partly Cloudy	56 | 36 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	73 | 54 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	93 | 80 °F
Melbourne	Sunny	71 | 49 °F
Miami	Sunny	81 | 72 °F
New York	Cloudy	61 | 44 °F
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	66 | 49 °F
Paris	Partly Cloudy	55 | 33 °F
Pusan	Sunny	71 | 49 °F
Rome	Sunny	66 | 45 °F
Salem	Rain	63 | 46 °F
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	62 | 52 °F
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	66 | 47 °F
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	73 | 50 °F
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	65 | 59 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:04 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.63
7:43 AM	LOW TIDE	1.18
12:04 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.48
7:41 PM	LOW TIDE	0.2

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:00 AM	6:32 PM
Thursday	5:59 AM	6:32 PM
Friday	5:59 AM	6:32 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:32 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	12:13 AM	11:54 AM	-
Thursday	1:00 AM	12:45 PM	-
Friday	1:46 AM	1:37 PM	-
Saturday	2:32 AM	2:30 PM	-
Sunday	3:17 AM	3:25 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 3, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

2017 BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR GALA

Pioneer businesswomen to be honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards

MAITE, Guam—First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* will present Lifetime Achievement Awards to two recipients on April 29 at the Businesswoman of the Year Gala at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

This year, the Lifetime Achievement Awards will be presented to Judith R. Booth and Bertha C. Evangelista.

The award recognizes businesswomen in the region who have been pioneers in their fields, have worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life in their island community and who serve as role models for businesswomen today. *Guam Business Magazine*

Booth, associate broker and vice president of Century 21 Realty Management Co., came to Guam in 1975 as a military spouse. Initially working as a nurse, Booth made the decision to understand the real estate market through training. That training resulted in a relationship with a real estate brokerage that would eventually become Century 21 Realty Management. Booth has been in the real estate business for 39 years.

Booth's areas of community service include giving support in a variety of ways to national and island nonprofits. These include the American Cancer Society, the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross and nonprofits that help military veterans. Booth is a past president of the Guam Association of Realtors and has held other offices in the association and in the community.

Evangelista, executive vice president of Title Guaranty of Guam Inc., began her career as a legal secretary and is now a well-established expert in escrow, with many seeking her advice in title and real estate matters. She has been with Title Guaranty since its formation in 1963. Her past titles with the company include general manager and president.

Evangelista is a member of the Guam Chamber of Commerce and the Guam Association of Realtors and is active in the Catholic Church. Through her company, she supports many of the island's nonprofits, including the Edward M. Calvo Cancer Foundation, the Good Neighbor Award and others.

Proceeds from the gala will fund scholarships for students pursuing business and related degrees at the University of Guam, Guam Community College and Northern Marianas College.

For more information, contact Joy White, assistant editor of *Guam Business Magazine*, at (671) 649-0883 ext. 125 or assist_editor@glimpsesofguam.com, or Barbie Jane Agahan, assistant advertising manager of First Hawaiian Bank, at (671) 475-7908 or bagahan@fhb.com. ***(PR)***

Galvelston Island returns home from patrol off Main Hawaiian Islands

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter *Galveston Island* (WPB 1349) returned home to Honolulu, Monday, after a five-day patrol throughout the Main Hawaiian Islands.

The crew conducted eight total boardings, issued 23 notices of violation and 22 safety violations.

The *Galveston Island*'s boarding team also terminated the voyage of the fishing vessel Lady Anne Margaret after a non-U.S. citizen was found to be serving as master of the U.S. documented vessel.

"Although our patrol was short, it was very successful and directly supports our mission under the Ocean Guardian Strategy to protect the nation's living marine resources, ensure fish for the future and economic stability by employing the right tools in the right place at the right time," said Lt. Ryan Ball, commanding officer, Galveston Island. "Our goal is to ensure the overall safety of the Hawaii-based commercial fishing fleet, provide presence and enforce the fishing laws and regulations within our Exclusive Economic Zone, which ultimately safeguards fish stock sustainability."

Galveston Island's crew also embarked a Samoan shiprider, who served as an observer during six of the eight boardings. Coast Guard teams and Pacific Island Nation shipriders routinely conduct professional exchanges and joint boardings within the U.S. and Pacific Island Nation's EEZs to protect the ocean and the living marine resources.

The Coast Guard's priorities under the Ocean Guardian Strategy are to: protect the U.S. EEZ from foreign encroachment, enforce domestic living marine resource laws, and ensure compliance with international agreements. The U.S. EEZ is the second largest in the world, comprising 4.38 million sq. miles of ocean.

On the commercial fishing vessel safety front, mandatory dockside safety exams must be completed for all commercial fishing vessels that operate beyond 3 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline. These exams are free and any discrepancies found at the dock may not result in fines. Fishing vessels that are required to carry National Marine Fisheries Service observers are required to have a valid decal (not expired). Mariners interested in scheduling commercial fishing vessel safety exams may contact Charlie Medlicott at 808-535-3417 or Charles.J.Medlicott@uscg.mil.

The independent state of Samoa is a self governing island country about halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand in the Polynesian region of the Pacific Ocean and is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. It comprises two main islands and eight small islets whose total land area is 1,097 sq. miles. Samoa's Exclusive Economic Zone, however, covers only 46,332 sq. miles of ocean as it does not extend a full 200 nautical miles in any direction and borders the U.S. EEZ via American Samoa. The professional exchange was conducted to strengthen partnerships and examine both nations' approach to fisheries enforcement and safety requirements aboard vessels operating in the Pacific.

The *Galveston Island* is a 110-foot Island class patrol boat homeported in Honolulu. The cutter is a multi-mission platform with a primary operation area in the main Hawaiian Islands that completes several such patrols annually. ***(USCG)***

Help your children become science 'GENE-iuses'

The University of Guam College of Natural & Applied Sciences, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources' GENE-ius Day Program, is establishing a children's science program called, "Guam Gene-iuses."

Guam Gene-iuses will encourage young students to explore more fully the world of science and help foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills while building an overall passion for science. Once the program gets going, students can enroll in a series of classes that will run every-other-week on Saturday. Each Saturday session will cover fun and exciting topics representing a wide range of science disciplines. Students will engage in hands-on experiments that will encourage scientific thinking.

Guam Gene-iuses' first trial run on Saturday, April 22, Earth Day. A repeat of the first class will go on for the next one or two consecutive Saturdays (April 29 and May 6) as needed.

Topic:
The lab will be covering the topic of cells and will be taught in a college laboratory setting.

Who can attend?
Only children in 4th through 6th grade attending a public or private school. Limited to 20 students per session.

Dates:
Two sessions area available on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

Morning: 10am-12noon and afternoon 2pm-4pm.

Location:
Agricultural & Life Sciences building in the University of Guam campus, Mangilao.

Cost:
There is no cost for the first class. Water will be provided.

Sign Up:
Contact Kamille Wang at: guam-geneius@triton.uog.edu to reserve a spot. On-site registration will not be held. Parents will not be allowed in the classroom during the session. ***(PR)***

Youth sailors participate in world sailing clinic in Vanuatu

Guam teen sailors Made Bradley and Mia Kriegel began their World Sailing Emerging Nations Sailing Clinic last April 14 in Port Vila, Vanuatu.

Selected by the Guam Sailing Federation to participate in the course, Bradley and Kriegal, along with GSF coach Victor Torres, will spend April 14-20 learning various sailing and racing techniques such as starting, tacking and mark rounding.

The clinic is conducted by experts from World Sailing, the international governing body for sailing. Sailing youth under 19 years of age from other Pacific island nations are also participating in the course.

"The Guam Sailing Federation successfully applied for funding to send participants to the clinic," said GSF president Kelly Bruce. "The sailors were selected based on their participation in local race and clinic events such as the Goodwill Regatta which was held in March. Our young sailors will return to Guam at the end of the week with a new set of skills which will help build our youth sailing program." ***(PR)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Youth sailors Mia Kriegel and Made Bradley are participating in a World Sailing clinic in Vanuatu, April 14-20. Pictured from left are Guam Sailing Federation coach Victor Torres, Kriegel, Bradley, and Guam Sailing Federation president Kelly Bruce.

Business

Pence, headed to Japan, turns focus to trade with key ally

TOKYO (AP)—U.S. Vice President Mike Pence is traveling to Japan for talks expected to focus largely on trade with America's anchor ally in the region.

Concluding a visit to South Korea, Pence told business leaders in Seoul on Tuesday the administration is taking a fresh look at trade agreements as part of its "America First" policy.

"We're reviewing all of our trade agreements across the world to ensure that they benefit our economy as much as they benefit our trading partners," Pence told the American Chamber of Commerce in Korea.

White House officials said the economic meetings in Tokyo, with Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso and other officials, are meant to forge a framework for future discussions after the U.S. withdrew from a Pacific Rim trade pact.



AP

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, right, and U.S. Vice President Mike Pence shake hands prior to a luncheon hosted by Abe at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo, Tuesday, April 18, 2017.

They will serve as the kick-off to the U.S.-Japan economic dialogue that was announced by President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in February.

While Japan's trade surplus with the U.S. is much smaller than China's, Trump has decried the imbalance, especially in auto exports.

In Japan, Pence's two main goals are to spur increased U.S. access to Japanese markets and strengthen Japanese foreign investment.

Both sides said they do not expect the talks in Tokyo this week to delve into sector-by-sector talks on trade. With no U.S. Trade Representative yet in office and other key negotiator positions still unfilled, such nitty-gritty discussions will have to come later.

But the meetings could indicate how forcefully the U.S. will pressure Japan to further open its farm and automotive sectors.

Pence's advisers said the vice president would seek to make the case to Abe and Aso that the U.S. rejection of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP, under Trump did not signal a U.S. withdrawal from trade and economic development in the region.

Before Pence's arrival, Aso told Japanese broadcaster NHK that Japan was providing, "not friction, but cooperation."

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters over the weekend that Japan might push ahead with a revised, 11-nation version of the TPP despite the U.S. rejection of the trade accord.

As Indiana governor, Pence saw firsthand the impact of Japanese automakers Toyota, Honda and Subaru, whose factories employ thousands of people in his home state.

Netflix standing on the threshold of 100 million subscribers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Netflix is on the verge of surpassing 100 million global subscribers, a testament to how much the video streaming service has changed the entertainment landscape since its debut a decade ago.

The company will reach that milestone this weekend if its projections are correct. Netflix made the prediction Monday with the release of its first-quarter earnings.

The service added nearly 5 million subscribers during the first three months of the year, and will end March with 98.7 million customers in roughly 190 countries.

THANK THE SMARTPHONE

Over the past decade, "what really did it for Netflix was the explosion of phones and tablets that allowed people to watch video everywhere," said Wedbush Securities analyst Michael Pachter. "But Netflix clearly had a vision before those devices became so ubiquitous."

About 51 million of Netflix's subscribers are in the U.S. By the end of this year, Piper Jaffray analyst Michael Olson expects the majority of the company's subscribers to be overseas. Netflix ended March with nearly 48 million subscribers outside the U.S.

Netflix CEO Reed Hastings expects the next 100 million subscribers to come more quickly than the first 100 million, but he didn't provide a specific timetable during online video review of the company's first quarter.

"Everybody watches TV and nearly everybody has the internet, so I don't see anything that's going to stop Netflix from getting to most people in the United States and then eventually hopefully most people around the world," Hastings said.

Progress toward that ambitious goal has helped drive the company's stock price progressively higher over the past five years. In that time, Netflix has added 72 million more subscribers.

The Los Gatos, California company currently has a market value of about $63 billion. Its stock rose $1.90 to $149.15 in Monday's extended trading, even though subscriber growth during the first quarter came in slightly below management forecasts.

STILL CHASING HBO

For all its success, Netflix still has a ways to go before it catches up with HBO, the popular pay-TV channel that has served as its role model. HBO has 134 million subscribers worldwide, including viewers paying for an internet-only version of the channel that was inspired by Netflix's success.

Other cable channels also are offering internet-only options as more viewers, especially younger people, eschew traditional TV packages and subscribe to streaming services instead.

The trend has confronted Netflix with more competition in the battle for household entertainment budgets. Netflix so far has answered the challenge by spending heavily on original shows such as "Stranger Things" and "House of Cards" and selling its service at a relatively low price. Netflix's subscriptions range from $8 to $12 per month, with the most popular option at $10.

"The model works from a consumer perspective because it is such a good value," Pachter said.

In a measure of how much Netflix subscribers like the service, Hastings said Monday that they collectively stream more than 1 billion hours of programming per week.

By comparison, Google says about 1 billion hours of video per day are watched on its mostly free YouTube service. "We have YouTube envy," Hastings joked.

WILL NETFLIX RAISE PRICES?

Pachter and other analysts wonder how long Netflix will be able to hold the line on price as its programming costs rise in tandem with its appeal to a more diverse international audience. Movie and TV studios typically also demand more money as more people subscribe to channels to in an effort to make as much as possible off their content.

As it is, Netflix expects to spend about $6 billion on programming this year.

Netflix hasn't given any inkling it will raise prices again. It lost some long-time U.S. subscribers after their rates went up by as much as $2 per month last year. Netflix had previously frozen prices for millions of subscribers at 2014 levels.

But if it wants to keep investors happy, the company will eventually have to improve its relatively low profit margin. The Los Gatos, California, company earned $178 million on revenue of $2.6 billion in the first quarter.

Trump order would target high-skilled worker visa program

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is planning to sign an executive order that seeks to make changes to a visa program that brings in high-skilled workers.

Trump is heading Tuesday to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he plans to sign an order dubbed "Buy American, Hire American," said administration officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity despite the president's frequent criticism of the use of anonymous sources.

The officials said the order, which Trump will sign at the headquarters of tool manufacturer Snap-on Inc., would direct the departments of Homeland Security, Justice, Labor and State to propose new rules to prevent immigration fraud and abuse. Those departments would also be asked to offer changes so that H-1B visas are awarded to the "most-skilled or highest-paid applicants."

The White House said the program is currently undercutting American workers by bringing in cheaper labor and said some tech companies are using it to hire large numbers of workers and drive down wages.

Administration officials said the order also seeks to strengthen requirements that American-made products be used in certain federal construction projects, as well as in various federal transportation grant-funded projects. The officials said the commerce secretary will review how to close loopholes in enforcing the existing rules and provide recommendations to the president.

The order specifically asks the secretary to review waivers of these rules that exist in free-trade agreements. The administration said that if the waivers are not benefiting the United States they will be "renegotiated or revoked."

During his campaign, Trump said at some points he supported high-skilled visas, then came out against them. At one debate, he called for fully ending the program, saying: "It's very bad for our workers and it's unfair for our workers. And we should end it."

The officials said the changes could be administrative or legislative and could include higher fees for the visas, changing the wage scale for the program or other initiatives.

About 85,000 H-1B visas are distributed annually by lottery. Many go to technology companies, which argue that the United States has a shortage of skilled technology workers.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
20,636.92	2,349.01	5,856.79
+183.67	+20.06	+51.64
0.90%	0.86%	0.89%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3223	Hong Kong Dollar	7.774	Philippine Peso	49.65
British Pound	0.7955	Indian Rupee	64.55	Singapore Dollar	1.3986
Canadian Dollar	1.332	Indonesian Rupiah	13295	South Korean Won	1140.6
Chinese Yuan	6.8893	Japanese Yen	109.04	Swiss Franc	1.0037
Euro	0.9388	Malaysian Ringgit	4.409	Taiwan Dollar	30.393
		New Zealand Dollar	1.4257	Thailand Baht	34.36

Nation

Videos show desperation of suspect in Facebook video killing



AP
Alexis Lee, a childhood friend of Steve Stephens, speaks with a neighbor near Stephens' childhood home in Cleveland, Ohio, Monday, April 17, 2017.

CLEVELAND (AP)—The suspect in the random killing of a retiree posted on Facebook made his living mentoring teens in Cleveland, but his life appeared to be unraveling under the weight of gambling debts and trouble with his girlfriend.

Rambling videos he shared showed his despair, saying he was out of options and wanted to kill as many innocent people as he could.

While authorities have not found any evidence that he killed anyone else, the manhunt for Steve Stephens stretched into a third day on Tuesday and far beyond the neighborhood where police said he shot a 74-year-old man who was picking up aluminum cans on Sunday after spending Easter with some of his children.

Stephens, 37, could be anywhere, authorities said, calling it a nationwide search. A $50,000 reward is being offered for information leading to his capture and prosecution.

Stephens posted a video of himself killing Robert Godwin Sr., a former foundry worker who had 10 children, police said. In it, he said, "I snapped, I just snapped." But police would not speculate on what was behind it.

"Only Steve knows that," Williams said.

In the video, Stephens told Godwin a woman's name and said, "She's the reason that this is about to happen to you." Godwin did not seem to recognize the name.

The woman Stephens spoke of, Joy Lane, said in a text message to CBS that "we had been in a relationship for several years. I am sorry that all of this has happened."

She also said Stephens was "a nice guy" who was good to her and her children.

Stephens filed for bankruptcy two years ago despite holding down a job as a counselor helping young people develop job skills and find employment. The behavioral health agency where he worked said an extensive background check before he was hired turned up nothing worrisome.

In one video posted on Facebook, Stephens said that he gambled away everything and that he and his girlfriend had planned to marry but did not, without saying why. He blamed her for what was about to happen.

Some friends said they knew about his gambling. But the videos showed a man they did not recognize.

Alexis Lee, who saw Stephens last week, said his childhood friend always seemed respectful and got along with everybody.

"He never ever told me he had problems or issues. It was always good things," Lee said. "He was always just so happy and cool, calm, collected, like, that's why it's so shocking."

Other neighbors said he was quiet as a kid and intelligent, recalling how he went to college and got a master's degree.

"He was just a no problem person at all, compared to a lot of people," said Cynthia Coley, a former neighbor.

In one video in which he blamed his girlfriend, Stephens said he woke up last week and "couldn't take it anymore."

Investigators said that Godwin was the only victim so far linked to Stephens, despite his claim on Facebook that he killed over a dozen people.

On Monday evening, Facebook announced that it was launching a review for reporting harmful content following the killing. The company said that Stephens posted a video of himself announcing his intent to commit murder, then two minutes later posted another video of himself shooting and killing Godwin. A few minutes after that, he went live and confessed.

The company said it disabled Stephen's account within 23 minutes of receiving the first report about the video of the fatal shooting and two hours after receiving any report.

"In this case we did not receive a report about the first video, and we only received a report about the second video —containing the shooting— more than an hour and 45 minutes after it was posted," said Justin Osofsky, Facebook's vice president of global operations. "We received reports about the third video, containing the man's live confession, only after it had ended."

Officers searched dozens of places around Cleveland without finding Stephens or any other victims before expanding the manhunt. Detectives spoke with the suspect on Sunday by cellphone and tried to persuade him to surrender, police said.

Law enforcement officials said his cellphone was last tracked Sunday afternoon in Erie, Pennsylvania, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) east of Cleveland. Police in Philadelphia said eight elementary schools and a high school were locked down Monday while they investigated reported sightings but found nothing.

ACROSS THE NATION

Court document: Hawaii mother's body parts found in freezer

HONOLULU (AP)—A Hawaii man accused of killing his mother months ago stuffed her dismembered body parts in seven plastic bags in the kitchen freezer of the Waikiki apartment they shared, according to court documents made public Monday. Yu Wei Gong has been charged with second-degree murder in the death of Liu Yun Gong. He called 911 on April 11 and said: "'I killed my Mom,'" according to a detective's affidavit supporting an arrest warrant. When officers arrived and could not find the woman, Gong told them she was "in the fridge," the complaint said. An officer found what appeared to be body parts. "Another covered object in the freezer felt to a different officer like a human leg and foot," the complaint said. Yu Wei Gong didn't speak or enter a plea during a brief court appearance Monday. Deputy Public Defender Diamond Grace requested a Mandarin interpreter for his preliminary hearing, scheduled for Wednesday. He remained in custody with bail set at $2 million.

In South Florida, green iguanas spread into suburban scourge

SUNNY ISLES BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Perched in trees and scampering down sidewalks, green iguanas have become so common across South Florida that many see them not as exotic invaders, but as reptilian squirrels. Native to Central and South America, green iguanas that escaped or were dumped as pets have been breeding in the Miami suburbs and the Keys for at least a decade without making headlines like other voracious invasive reptiles such as Burmese pythons or black-and-white tegu lizards. They've been considered mostly harmless because they eat plants instead of native animals. But their burrows undermine seawalls, sidewalks and levees, and they eat their way through valuable landscaping as well as native plants. Their droppings can be a significant cleanup problem, as well as a potential source of salmonella bacteria, which causes food poisoning. Compared with elusive pythons in the Everglades, iguanas are easy to spot. They can grow to more than 5 feet long, and they like what draws people to Florida: nice landscaping, waterfront views, swimming pools and sunbathing.

Supreme Court does not allow Arkansas execution

VARNER, Ark. (AP)—The U.S. Supreme Court spared the life of an Arkansas inmate minutes before his death warrant was set to expire Monday, scuttling efforts to resume the death penalty after nearly 12 years in the state with a plan to carry out four double executions before its supply of a lethal injection drug expires.

The court's decision to maintain the stay for Don Davis capped a chaotic day of legal wrangling in state and federal courts to clear the primary obstacles Arkansas faced to carrying out its first executions since 2005. Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who had set the multiple executions, said the state would to continue to push for the other lethal injections to be carried out. Two inmates are set to be put to death on Thursday.

"While this has been an exhausting day for all involved, tomorrow we will continue to fight back on last minute appeals and efforts to block justice for the victims' families," Hutchinson said in a statement.

The legal fighting had centered on a series of planned lethal injections that, if carried out, would mark the most inmates put to death by a state in such a short period since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976. The state scheduled the executions to take place before its supply of midazolam, a lethal injection drug, expires at the end of April.

The state was rushing to win approval to execute Davis before his death warrant expired at midnight. Davis and Bruce Ward were set to be executed Monday night and had been granted stays by the state Supreme Court. The state decided not to challenge the stay for Ward.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling came hours after the state had cleared two of the main obstacles to resuming executions. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a federal judge's ruling blocking the executions over the use of midazolam, a sedative used in flawed executions in other states. The state Supreme Court also lifted a lower court ruling preventing the state from using another lethal injection drug that a supplier said was sold to be used for medical purposes, not executions.

Davis was sentenced to death for the 1990 death of Jane Daniel in Rogers. The woman was killed in her home after Davis broke in and shot her with a .44-caliber revolver he found there. Davis came within six hours of execution in 2010 before he was spared by the state Supreme Court.

"It is heartbreaking that the family of Jane Daniel has once again seen justice delayed," Attorney General Leslie Rutledge said in a statement. "Davis was convicted of his crimes in 1992, and my office took every action it could today to see that justice was carried out."

Asia



AP

In this Saturday, April 15, 2017 photo, in what military experts say appears to be a North Korean KN-08 Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICMB) is paraded across Kim Il Sung Square during a military parade in Pyongyang, North Korea, to celebrate the 105th birth anniversary of Kim Il Sung, the country's late founder and grandfather of current ruler Kim Jong Un.

PENCE WARNS N. KOREA
'era of strategic patience is over'

PANMUNJOM, South Korea (AP)—Viewing his adversaries in the distance, U.S. Vice President Mike Pence traveled to the tense zone dividing North and South Korea and warned Pyongyang that after years of testing the U.S. and South Korea with its nuclear ambitions, "the era of strategic patience is over."

Pence made an unannounced visit to the Demilitarized Zone Monday at the start of his 10-day trip to Asia in a U.S. show of force that allowed the vice president to gaze at North Korean soldiers from afar and stare directly across a border marked by razor wire. As the brown bomber jacket-clad vice president was briefed near the military demarcation line, two North Korean soldiers watched from a short distance away, one taking multiple photographs of the American visitor.

Pence told reporters near the DMZ that President Donald Trump was hopeful China would use its "extraordinary levers" to pressure the North to abandon its weapons program, a day after the North's failed missile test launch. But Pence expressed impatience with the unwillingness of the regime to move toward ridding itself of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles.

Pointing to the quarter-century since the United States first confronted North Korea over its attempts to build nuclear weapons, the vice president said a period of patience had followed.

"But the era of strategic patience is over," he declared. "President Trump has made it clear that the patience of the United States and our allies in this region has run out and we want to see change. We want to see North Korea abandon its reckless path of the development of nuclear weapons, and also its continual use and testing of ballistic missiles is unacceptable."



North Korea
(Democratic People's Republic of Korea)
Founded: 1948
Leaders:
Kim Jong Un (2011-present)
Kim Jong Il (1994-2011)
Kim Il Sung (1948-1994)
Population: 25.1 million (2016)
Unemployment: 25.6% (2013)
Labor force:
Agriculture: 37%
Industry and services: 63%

Graphic: TNS
Source: CIA World Factbook

In Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, speaking to reporters Monday evening, said he hopes the United States "there will be no unilateral actions like those we saw recently in Syria and that the U.S. will follow the line that President Trump repeatedly voiced during the election campaign."

Meanwhile, China made a plea for a return to negotiations. Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said tensions need to be eased on the Korean Peninsula to bring the escalating dispute there to a peaceful resolution. Lu said Beijing wants to resume the multi-party negotiations that ended in stalemate in 2009 and suggested that U.S. plans to deploy a missile defense system in South Korea were damaging its relations with China.

In Tokyo, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, speaking to a parliamentary session Monday, said: "Needless to say, diplomatic effort is important to maintain peace. But dialogue for the sake of having dialogue is meaningless."

"We need to apply pressure on North Korea so they seriously respond to a dialogue" with the international community, he said, urging China and Russia to play more constructive roles on the issue.

Later Monday, Pence reiterated in a joint statement alongside South Korean Acting President Hwang Kyo-ahn that "all options are on the table" to deal with threat and said any use of nuclear weapons by Pyongyang would be met with "an overwhelming and effective response." He said the American commitment to South Korea is "iron-clad and immutable."

Pointing to Trump's recent military actions in Syria and Afghanistan, Pence said, "North Korea would do well not to test his resolve," or the U.S. armed forces in the region.

Ex-Afghan president: Massive US bomb was an 'atrocity'

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Former Afghan President Hamid Karzai said Monday that the U.S. is using Afghanistan as a weapons testing ground, calling the recent use of the largest-ever non-nuclear bomb "an immense atrocity against the Afghan people."

Last week, U.S. forces dropped the GBU-43 Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB) bomb in eastern Nangarhar province, reportedly killing 95 militants. Karzai, in an interview with The Associated Press, objected to the decision, saying that his country "was used very disrespectfully by the U.S. to test its weapons of mass destruction."

The office of President Ashraf Ghani said following the bomb's usage that there was "close coordination" between the U.S. military and the Afghan government over the operation, and they were careful to prevent any civilian casualties.

But Karzai harshly criticized the Afghan government for allowing the use of the bomb.

"How could a government of a country allow the use of a weapon of mass destruction on its own territory? Whatever the reason, whatever the cause, how could they allow that? It just unimaginable," he said.

The strike was carried out Thursday morning against an Islamic State group tunnel complex, carved into a mountain that Afghan forces had tried to assault repeatedly in recent weeks, according to Afghan officials.

Dozens still missing in Sri Lankan garbage collapse; 30 dead

MEETOTAMULLA, Sri Lanka (AP)—Rescuers on Monday were digging through heaps of mud and trash that collapsed onto a clutch of homes near a garbage dump outside Sri Lanka's capital, killing at least 30 people and possibly burying dozens more.

Hundreds of people had been living in the working-class neighborhood on the fringe of the towering dump in Meetotamulla, a town near Colombo, when a huge mound collapsed Friday night during a celebration for the local new year, damaging at least 150 homes.

By Monday morning, authorities had pulled the bodies from beneath the debris, according to a Disaster Management Center report. Authorities were unsure how many more people could still be trapped, with contradictory reports being released. They announced 30 people were missing Monday but later reduced the number to 11.

Disaster Management Center spokesman Pradeep Kodippili said the number was reduced after adjusting names that had been entered on the list of dead as well as missing.

Law and Order Minister Sagala Ratnayake said the number of people could be between six and 10.

Soldiers were digging with backhoes and shovels, as relatives of the missing pointed out where their houses once stood amid coconut, mango and banana trees.

Those homes now lay in piles of collapsed concrete walls encased in a wall of mud up to 8 meters (25 feet) high and mixed with plastic bags, broken glass and other trash. Bicycles and auto-rickshaws, the three-wheeled vehicles used as local taxis, were crushed or lying topsy-turvy.

In other parts of the dump officials were mapping places that can slide and identifying families that need to be evacuated.

World

Turkey's president Erdogan fulfills ambition, but at a cost



AP
Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, delivers a speech during a rally of supporters a day after the referendum, outside the Presidential Palace, in Ankara, Turkey, Monday, April 17, 2017.

ISTANBUL (AP)—Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has finally fulfilled his long-held ambition to expand his powers after Sunday's referendum handed him the reins of his country's governance. But success did not come without a cost.

His victory leaves the nation deeply divided and facing increasing tension with former allies abroad, while international monitors and opposition parties have reported numerous voting irregularities.

An unofficial tally carried by the country's state-run news agency gave Erdogan's "yes" vote a narrow win, with 51.4 percent approving a series of constitutional changes converting Turkey's political system from a parliamentary to a presidential one. Critics argue the reforms will hand extensive power to a man with an increasingly autocratic bent, leaving few checks and balances in place.

Opposition parties called for the vote to be annulled because of a series of irregularities, particularly an electoral board decision to accept ballots that did not bear official stamps, as required by Turkish law. Monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, who also listed numerous irregularities, said the move undermined safeguards against fraud.

The referendum campaign was heavily weighted in favor of the "yes" campaign, with Erdogan drawing on the full powers of the state and government to dominate the airwaves and billboards. The "no" campaign complained of intimidation, detentions and beatings.

In Istanbul, hundreds of "no" supporters demonstrated in the streets on Monday, chanting "thief, murderer, Erdogan" and banging pots and pans.

"We are protesting today because the results announced by the government are not the real ones. Because actually the 'no' we voted won. But the government is announcing it as 'yes' has won," Damla Atalay, a 35-year-old lawyer, said of the voting irregularities.

Erdogan was unfazed by the criticism as he spoke to flag-waving supporters in the Turkish capital, Ankara.

"We have put up a fight against the powerful nations of the world," he said as he arrived at the airport from Istanbul. "The crusader mentality attacked us abroad. ... We did not succumb. As a nation, we stood strong."

In a speech before a massive crowd at his sprawling presidential palace complex, Erdogan insisted Turkey's referendum was "the most democratic election ... ever seen in any Western country" and admonished the OSCE monitors to "know your place."

The increasing polarization of Turkish society has long worried observers, who note the dangers of deepening societal divisions in a country with a history of political instability.

The referendum was held with a state of emergency still in place, imposed after an attempted coup in July. About 100,000 people have been fired from their jobs in the crackdown that followed on supporters of a U.S.-based Islamic cleric and former Erdogan ally whom the president blamed for the attempted putsch. Tens of thousands have been arrested or imprisoned, including lawmakers, judges, journalists and businessmen.

The Council of Ministers decided Monday to extend the state of emergency, which grants greater powers of detention and arrest to security forces, for a further three months. It had been due to expire April 19. The decision was to be sent to parliament for approval.

"The way (Erdogan) has closed the door on the opposition, there is likely to be increased political unrest," said Howard Eissenstat, associate professor of Middle East history at St. Lawrence University in upstate New York. "Forty-eight percent of the population is being told that their voices don't matter."

There is also the risk of increased international isolation, with Erdogan appealing to patriotic sentiments by casting himself as a champion of a proud Turkish nation that will not be dictated to by foreign powers in general, and the European Union in particular.

Turkey has been an EU candidate for decades, but its accession efforts have been all but moribund for several years.

"They have made us wait at the gates of the European Union for 54 years," Erdogan told his supporters at the presidential palace. "We can conduct a vote of confidence on this as well. Would we? What did England do—they did Brexit, right?"

Hundreds of Palestinians held by Israel launch hunger strike

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Hundreds of Palestinians in Israeli prisons launched a hunger strike Monday, in what their leader behind bars called a new step in the Palestinians' "long walk to freedom."

Activists said more than 1,500 of about 6,500 Palestinians held by Israel as so-called security prisoners joined the open-ended protest and that it was the largest such strike in five years. The hunger strikers' immediate demands included better conditions, including more contact with relatives, and an end to Israel's practice of detentions without trial.

In the West Bank and Gaza, thousands staged solidarity marches Monday to mark Prisoners' Day in the Palestinian areas.

The hunger strike was led by Marwan Barghouti, a prominent figure in Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement. Over the years, polls have indicated that Barghouti is the most popular choice among Palestinians to succeed the 82-year-old Abbas who has failed to groom a political heir.

Barghouti was arrested in 2002 during the violent Palestinian uprising and convicted on multiple counts of murder. Israel charged him with directing suicide bombings against its citizens and he was sentenced to five life terms.

Barghouti is one of the best-known among thousands of Palestinians jailed for charges ranging from stone-throwing and membership in groups outlawed by Israel, to attacks that wounded or killed Israelis.

In an op-ed published in The New York Times, Barghouti wrote that Israeli prisons have become the "cradle of a lasting movement for Palestinian self-determination."

"This new hunger strike will demonstrate once more that the prisoners' movement is the compass that guides our struggle, the struggle for Freedom and Dignity, the name we have chosen for this new step in our long walk to freedom," he wrote.

In what appeared to be a punitive measure, Israel's prison service said Barghouti had been transferred to a different prison.

Israel media reported that Barghouti had violated the conditions of his incarceration by communicating with the newspaper and that he had likely smuggled the text out through his lawyer.

Prison Service spokesman Assaf Librati refused to elaborate on Barghouti's role.

"The strike is a decision of the prisoners. We are containing the situation and monitoring its developments," he said.

Government forces on the offensive in central Hama province

BEIRUT (AP)—Government forces and their allies advanced Monday in the central province of Hama under the cover of intense airstrikes, approaching the outskirts of a rebel-held town a day after capturing a strategic town from opposition fighters and militants, Syria's state media and opposition activists said.

The push toward the town of Tibet al-Imam came a day after troops and pro-government militiamen captured the town of Soran, a month after Soran was lost in a rebel offensive. The government appears to be aiming to secure areas north of the city of Hama, the country's fourth largest.

Insurgents, including members of al-Qaida-linked Levant Liberation Committee, launched a wide offensive on parts of Hama province last month capturing several villages and towns. The government launched a wide counteroffensive under the cover of Russian and Syrian airstrikes regaining control of the whole area lost and pushing ahead toward other villages.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Syrian air force jets had conducted nearly 25 airstrikes on Tibet al-Imam and nearby villages since midnight.

Syrian state news agency SANA quoted an unnamed military official as saying that troops are now at the eastern entrance of Tibet al-Imam after capturing nearby hills under the cover of intense bombardment.

Earlier on Monday, the Observatory and Syrian-based opposition activist Taher al-Omar said members of the Levant Liberation Committee captured several army checkpoints near the central town of Salamiyeh. The Observatory and state media said government forces regained control of the checkpoints hours later.

Meanwhile, the fate of an operation to evacuate thousands of Syrians from besieged cities loyal to both the government and the opposition was cast in doubt.

Near Damascus, a group of buses slated to evacuate rebel gunmen from the town of Zabadani pulled out of town without any passengers, a local resident said.

"They've filled in the dirt berm at the entrance to the town," said Amer Burhan, the director of Zabadani's only remaining hospital. He was scheduled to be evacuated with the rest of the town's 160 remaining inhabitants, who are mostly fighters.

The evacuation has been postponed repeatedly since it was originally scheduled for April 4. It is tied to simultaneous evacuations from two pro-government towns in northern Syria that have been held under siege by rebels. Zabadani is besieged by government forces.

Focus



Ex-South Korean leader Park indicted, faces trial

AP

In this March 30, 2017 file photo, former South Korean President Park Geun-hye arrives at the Seoul Central District Court for hearing on a prosecutors' request for her arrest for corruption, in Seoul, South Korea.

By HYUNG-JIN KIM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean prosecutors on Monday indicted ex-President Park Geun-hye on bribery, extortion, abuse of power and other high-profile corruption charges that could potentially send her to jail for life.

It is the latest in a series of humiliations for Park, who was driven from office by massive and peaceful popular protests. Park was impeached in December, officially stripped of power in March and has been in a detention facility near Seoul since being arrested last month on allegations that she extorted from businesses, took bribes and committed other wrongdoing, all in collaboration with a longtime confidante.

Prosecutors also indicted Shin Dong-bin, the chairman of Lotte, South Korea's fifth-largest business conglomerate, on a charge of offering a bribe of 7 billion won ($6 million) to Park and her friend Choi Soon-sil in exchange for a lucrative government license to open a new duty free shop.

Park will remain jailed and be escorted from the detention center to a Seoul court for a trial that is to start in coming weeks and could take as long as six months. It is still unclear if the trial will start before a May 9 special election that will determine her successor.

Park, 65, was elected South Korea's first female president in late 2012. The country will now watch as she is forced to stand in court while handcuffed, bound with rope and possibly dressed in prison garb.

If convicted, her bribery charge carries the biggest punishment, ranging from 10 years in prison to life imprisonment.

While deeply unpopular among many South Koreans, Park still has supporters, and some conservative politicians and media outlets are already demanding that authorities pardon her if she's convicted.

Some of her supporters still stage protests in downtown Seoul every weekend. Such rallies could pressure whoever becomes her successor at a time when South Korea also faces increasing North Korean nuclear threats and diverse economic woes.

South Korea pardoned two convicted former leaders in the late 1990s in a bid for national reconciliation amid financial crisis, and its court had until recently showed leniency toward jailing many corrupt business tycoons because of worries about hurting the economy.

Park's scandal triggered huge political turmoil in South Korea, with millions taking to the streets to call for her ouster for months before her supporters launched their own protests. Dozens of high-level figures, including Choi, Park's friend of 40 years, top administration officials and Samsung heir Lee Jae-yong have already been indicted and await separate criminal trials.

Prosecutors charged Park with conspiring with Choi and a presidential adviser to pressure 18 business groups to donate a total of 77.4 billion won ($68 million) for the launch of two non-profit foundations controlled by Choi.

Park and Choi were also charged with taking bribes from two of the business groups, Samsung and Lotte, and colluding with other top officials to blacklist artists critical of Park's government to deny them state support. Park also faces charges that she passed on dozens of documents with sensitive information to Choi via one of her presidential aides.

According to prosecutors, Park and Choi allegedly took about 30 billion won ($26 million) in bribes from Samsung in return for a government support for a smooth company leadership transition.

Park has denied any legal wrongdoing, arguing that she only got help from Choi to edit some presidential speeches and on public relations.

Park is the daughter of late dictator Park Chung-hee, one of the most divisive figures in South Korean history. Some recall him as an enormous human rights abuser while others credit him for spearheading a rapid economic rise in the 1960-70s. Critics say Park's 2012 election wouldn't have happened without conservatives' nostalgia for her father.

Park Chung-hee's iron-fisted 18-year rule ended after he was gunned down by his spy chief in 1979, five years after his wife was killed during an assassination attempt that originally targeted her husband.

Park Geun-hye once described Choi, 60, as someone who helped her when she had difficulties in the past, an apparent reference to her parents' deaths.

A look at key moments in life of S. Korea's ex- leader

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Park Geun-hye, the recently deposed president of South Korea, was indicted on corruption and other charges in the latest blow for the country's first female president, the former darling of conservatives and the daughter of a deeply divisive dictator.

Park, who was arrested and detained last month, now faces a criminal trial after prosecutors indicted her Monday for allegedly abusing power, extorting money, taking bribes and leaking state secrets.

A look at key developments in Park's life and political career:

■ 1963: Park, then 11, moves into the presidential Blue House after her father, Park Chung-hee, becomes president, two years after he staged a coup and took control of the country.

- 1974: Her mother is shot and killed by a man targeting her father during a speech in Seoul, claiming orders from then-North Korean leader Kim Il Sung. Park begins serving as first lady.

■ 1979: Her father is assassinated by his spy chief during a late-night drinking party. Park leaves the Blue House after her father's state funeral.

■ 1990: Park resigns as chairwoman of a children's foundation over suspicions that she allowed her mentor, Choi Tae-min, and his daughter, Choi Soon-sil, to manipulate it for personal gains. Park's ties with the Choi clan will prove to be damaging after she becomes president.

■ 1998: After years of mostly avoiding the public eye, Park enters politics and wins a parliamentary seat amid public nostalgia for her father at a time when South Korea was being battered by the Asian financial crisis.

■ 2006: Park, by now leader of the main conservative party, is attacked by a man wielding a box cutter while campaigning in Seoul. She receives 60 stitches for an 11-centimeter (four-inch) gash on her face. The first words she reportedly says at a hospital are, "How is Daejeon?" to check on campaigning in the central city; that further builds up her image as a strong leader.

■ 2012: Park becomes the country's first female president in a landslide victory over liberal opponent Moon Jae-jin.

■ 2014: The 6,800-ton Sewol ferry sinks off the country's southwest coast, killing 304 people, mostly teenagers on a school trip. Park comes under heavy criticism over what was seen as a botched rescue by the government.

■ 2016: Media report suspicions that a senior Park aide pressured companies into giving money to non-profit organizations controlled by Choi Soon-sil, the daughter of her mentor. Park acknowledges her ties with Choi in a speech to the nation, but denies breaking the law. Prosecutors indict Choi and two former Park aides in November, and lawmakers impeach Park a few weeks later.

■ 2017: The Constitutional Court votes unanimously to uphold the impeachment and remove Park from office, which lifts her immunity from prosecution. Prosecutors call her in for questioning. Ten days later, she is arrested. In April, she's indicted by Seoul prosecutors on multiple charges, including abuse of power, extortion, bribery and leaking state secrets.

Good Housekeeping

Master Gardener got a hands-on education in her Minn. garden

By KIM PALMER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

WOODBURY, Minn.— Wind your way through the housing subdivisions of Woodbury, up a gentle hill, and you come to a pastoral sight: a picturesque yellow farmhouse, with a 19th century granary painted barn red. Just beyond is a dining patio overlooking a serene koi pond with waterfall. And surrounding it all are acres of colorful gardens.

This is the refuge that Lisa Moran and Peter Rekow have spent more than 20 years creating on a former dairy farm, a vestige of the suburb's agrarian past.

In her garden, Moran is at peace. "It's my Zen. I love being outside in nature," she said. "When I'm in the garden, I'm blissful. I'm in the moment."

A graphic designer, she enjoys the creative aspect of composing a garden. She designs "by feel," using garden hoses to lay out the perimeter of each new bed, then planting with an eye to height, color, foliage texture and bloom times to create her composition. "I like an English look — not very formal," she said, "and I want something blooming at all times, from spring to fall."

Moran enjoys even the mundane garden chores such as weeding. "I'd rather be cleaning my garden than cleaning my house," she said.

Rekow is her partner in life — and in hardscape. A mechanical engineer, he came up with the skimmer and filtration system for their koi pond, hand-built their woodfire pizza oven and collaborated with Moran in building the pergola and the long cedar table and benches that have turned their backyard into an enchanting spot for entertaining.

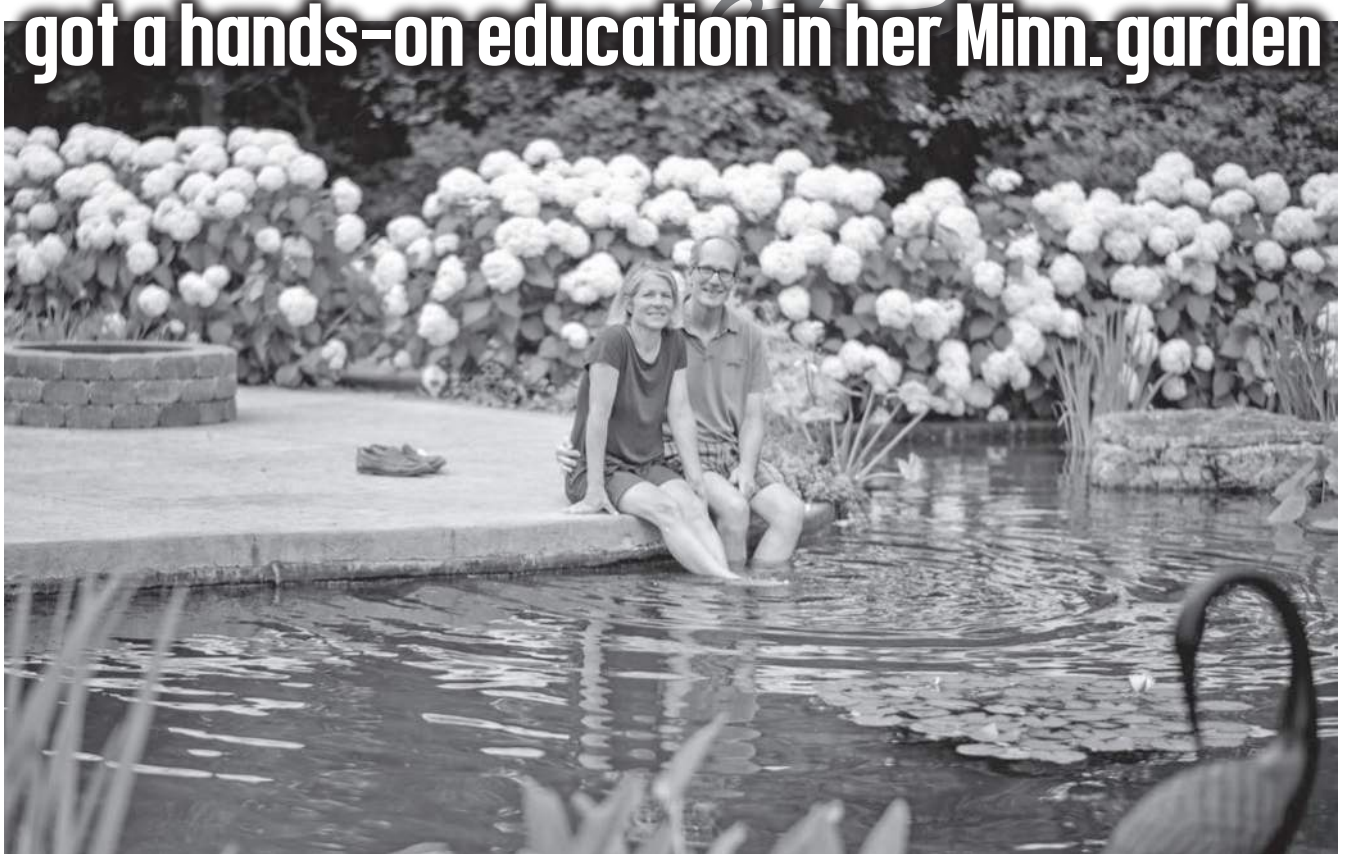
"He doesn't like gardening," said Moran. "He's my project guy. When I tell him I want to add or expand a garden, he cringes."

It was Moran's hunger to garden on a grand scale that led them to their home in the first place. Their previous house in Lauderdale had a very small yard.

"I had never gardened before, and I wanted to," she said. So she started an alpine garden but quickly ran out of space, and told Rekow she needed more.

The old dairy farm fit the bill. "We bought it because of the land, to garden," she said.

But all that land presented the opposite problem. "It's been a challenge up here — from no space to too much," she said. "How do I make it flow and create intimate places?"



Lisa Moran and Peter Rekow relax at the edge of their pond. TNS

At first, their yard was filled with mature oaks, elms and maples, so she relied heavily on hostas. "Someone told me that's what grows in the shade," she said.

Then in 1998, straight-line winds took down or heavily damaged almost all of their big trees and changed the character of their garden. "Now we had sun. I was excited to put in sun plants — the sun plants are the showy ones."

Today, she grows mostly perennials, augmented with annuals for added color. "For a while I was a purist about perennials," she said. But to get extra punches of color, she began adding annuals, too. Instead of buying them at garden centers, she usually starts them from seed. When she does buy plants, "I get one and divide it," she said. "It's the only way to fill up these huge spaces without going broke."

Over the years, she's learned to make the most of their heavy clay soil. When she adds a new bed, she "double digs" by hand, using her shovel to break up the lumps of clay, then tops it with compost and mulch. "By two or three years, the soil is pretty good," she said. "The good thing about clay is, if you break it up, uncompact it, the minerals are great."

But still she can't grow everything she'd like to. Asters, for example, have failed to thrive in her garden. "I can't do acid lovers or plants that love a lot of moisture," she said. "We're on a hill, so it all runs off." (She keeps a "dead file" folder with tags of plants that didn't make it.)



The granary dates from the land's earlier life as a dairy farm. TNS



Siberian iris. TNS

Moran recently became a Washington County Master Gardener and is now trying to incorporate more plants that provide habitat for bees and butterflies. Last year, she added a pollinator garden filled with native plants, including different varieties of milkweed, liatris, ironweed, coneflowers and rudbeckia.

"It's like a field of flowers — much less composed," she said. "I let things go to seed and meander a bit."

Opportunity knocks

The setting for the couple's home and garden has changed dramatically since they moved there in 1994. At that time, they were ahead of suburban development and surrounded by open fields. Monarch butterflies fluttered thickly around milkweed plants, and the couple's two daughters, now young adults, had room to roam. "The kids could run for miles," Moran recalled. "We knew it would change."

But when it did change, it also presented an opportunity. Moran had been wanting to add a big water feature. Rekow was less than enthusiastic — until the city closed the road they'd been using, to create roadways for a new housing development.

That forced the couple to move their driveway to the other side of the property, which called for grading and dirt — quite a lot of it. When Moran found out the cost, she was shocked. "Four thousand dollars for dirt! I hung up and said, 'We're sitting on dirt. Let's kill two birds with one stone and dig a koi pond.'?" This time, Rekow was on board.

Moran laid out the shape of the pond using a garden hose, and they started digging. They had two dump trucks full of rocks delivered to their site. "I did a drawing of how I wanted it to look," she said.

She measured each rock, numbered them on a grid, painted those numbers on the rocks, then hired a contractor to put them in place. "It was an anniversary present from my husband — the nicest present ever!" she said.

They built the pond with steep sides, to keep raccoons from poaching their koi. "I thought we were as clever as could be," she said. But it didn't stop the otters, who ate all their fish in one day. "We came out to find heads on the concrete and scales twinkling at the bottom of the pond."

Otters aren't the only critters that wreak havoc in their garden.

"The worst thing about gardening is the wildlife counteracting everything you do," she said. "I used to have lots of flowering shrubs. I love flowering shrubs! But the animals stripped the bark off. I finally gave up and dug 'em out."

Hungry rabbits are another garden foe. She uses a repellent called Rabbit Scram, but still can't hold them off completely. "Volume helps," she said. "If they eat half my lilies, there are still half of them blooming."

The vegetable garden is fenced, to deter deer, but squirrels still devour the tomatoes. "They can take 10 percent," she said. "It's like tithing."

A few years ago, their garden even attracted a black bear. "He slept under a tree all day, drank out of the pond, investigated the pizza oven, then wandered away," she said.

With such a big garden and so many adversaries, can she ever just relax and enjoy what she's created? Moran enjoys having her morning coffee by the pond, watching the ducks with Finn, their Havanese dog. But mostly, if she's outside, she's working — and she doesn't mind. "That is my relaxation," she said. "It makes me happy."

Life & Style

Prince search warrants lay bare struggle with opioids

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Court documents unsealed in the investigation into Prince's death paint a picture of a man struggling with an addiction to prescription opioids and withdrawal, with various pills stashed in bottles around the pop superstar's suburban Minneapolis studio and estate.

But the search warrants and affidavits unsealed Monday shed no new light on how Prince got the fentanyl that killed him.

The documents were unsealed in Carver County District Court as the yearlong investigation into Prince's death continues. They show authorities searched Paisley Park, cellphone records of Prince's associates, and Prince's email accounts to try to determine how he got the fentanyl, a synthetic opioid drug 50 times more powerful than heroin.

The documents don't reveal answers to that question, but do provide the most details yet seen on Prince's struggle with addiction to prescription opioids in the days before he died.



AP

This April 6, 2017, photo, shows cars parked outside Paisley Park Museum, former home and recording studio of the late megastar Prince in Chanhassen, Minn.

Prince was 57 when he was found alone and unresponsive in an elevator at his Paisley Park estate on April 21. Just six days earlier, he passed out on a plane and had to be revived with two doses of a drug that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose.

Associates at Paisley Park also told investigators that Prince was recently "going through withdrawals, which are believed to be the result of the abuse of prescription medication," an affidavit said.

The documents unsealed Monday allege Dr. Michael Todd Schulenberg, a family physician who saw the musician twice last April, told authorities he prescribed the opioid painkiller oxycodone to Prince but put it under the name of Prince's bodyguard and close friend, Kirk Johnson, "for Prince's privacy.,"

Schulenberg's attorney, Amy Conners, disputed that. She said in a statement that Schulenberg "never directly prescribed opioids to Prince, nor did he ever prescribe opioids to any other person with the intent that they would be given to Prince."

F. Clayton Tyler, Johnson's attorney, released a statement saying that after reviewing the documents, "we believe that it is clear that Kirk Johnson did not secure nor supply the drugs which caused Prince's death."

Schulenberg is practicing family medicine in Minnesota and Conners said there are no restrictions on his license.

It is illegal for a doctor to write a prescription for someone under another person's name.

Joe Tamburino, a Minnesota defense attorney who is not associated with the Prince case, said while Schulenberg and Johnson could face charges if the allegations are true, it's unlikely state or federal prosecutors would pursue them. He called them low-level offenses that wouldn't draw prison time.

He said for prosecutors, the source of the fentanyl is the big target.

"The oxycodone in this case is only tangential to the whole case," Tamburino said, later adding. "The real meat and potatoes is going to be that fentanyl thing."

The documents said Prince did not have any prescriptions, including for fentanyl.

James L. Jones, a spokesman for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's field office in Chicago, said anyone convicted of writing a prescription for someone under another person's name could lose their DEA registration—meaning they could no longer prescribe medications—and could face discipline from their state medical board.

In practice, laws against prescribing drugs for someone under a false name are not usually enforced when a doctor intends to protect a celebrity's privacy, said Los Angeles attorney Ellyn Garofalo. She represented a doctor who was acquitted of all charges, including false name allegations, in the death of Anna Nicole Smith, the Playboy model and reality TV star who died of an accidental overdose in 2007.

"They would be indicting every pharmacist in Beverly Hills if this were strictly enforced," Garofalo said Monday.

Oxycodone, the generic name for the active ingredient in OxyContin, was not listed as a cause of Prince's death. But it is part of a family of painkillers driving the nation's overdose and addiction epidemic, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nearly 2 million Americans abused or were addicted to prescription opioids, including oxycodone, in 2014.

Patients who take prescription opioids eventually build up a tolerance and need to take stronger doses to get the same effect. In some patients, the cycle leads to addiction.

A search of Prince's home yielded numerous pills in various containers. Some were in prescription bottles for Johnson. Some pills in other bottles were marked "Watson 853," a label used for a drug that is a mix of acetaminophen and hydrocodone, another opioid painkiller. Last August, an official with knowledge of the investigation told The Associated Press that at least one of those pills tested positive for fentanyl, meaning the pill was counterfeit and obtained illegally. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the ongoing investigation.

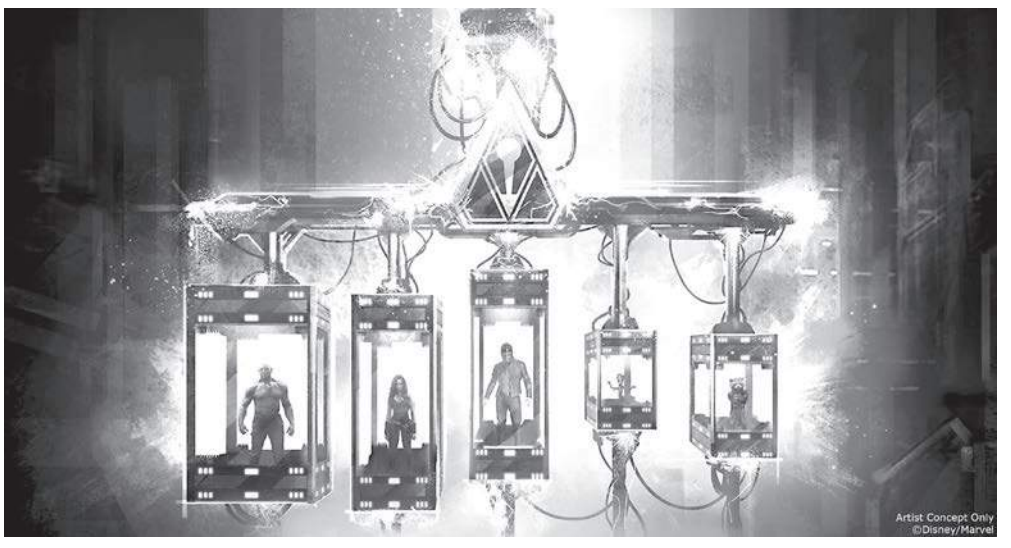
Big summer for Disney parks: Pandora and Guardians of Galaxy

By BETH J. HARPAZ
AP TRAVEL EDITOR

Disney theme parks have a big summer ahead of them with major new attractions opening May 27 based on two movies, one about the Marvel Comics superheroes from "Guardians of the Galaxy" and the other about the lush alien world of Pandora from the James Cameron film "Avatar."

The Guardians of the Galaxy: Mission BREAKOUT! attraction opens at Disney California Adventure in Anaheim, California.

Pandora—The World of Avatar is a 12-acre land opening at Walt Disney World's Animal Kingdom in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.



AP

This artist concept rendering provided by Disneyland Resort shows characters from a new ride debuting at Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif., May 27, 2017, called Guardians of the Galaxy - Mission: BREAKOUT! The ride was inspired by the "Guardians of the Galaxy" film.

But the creative designer behind the attractions says you don't need to know anything about either movie to enjoy them.

"This is not a revisitation of a plot line of a film you already saw," said Disney Imagineer Joe Rohde at an event Monday in New York City previewing the attractions. "This is your opportunity to go to an amazing world and have adventures of your own. ... The story is about you."

The premise of the Guardians of the Galaxy ride is that the Guardian superheroes have been captured and riders must participate in an adventure with a character called Rocket Raccoon to free them. "It is a prison breakout story," Rohde said. The ride incorporates multiple scenarios for resolving the story line so that riders have a slightly different experience each time they go through it.

Guardians of the Galaxy is located in a redesigned drop tower structure that once housed the Twilight Zone of Terror.

At Pandora, there are two rides plus retail and dining components. Riders on Avatar Flight of Passage fly through the forest on the backs of creatures called banshees to participate in a tribal coming of age ceremony. Riders on the Na'vi River Journey move through the bioluminescent forest on a boat, guided by a mystical singing figure.

Rohde described Pandora as an "obsessively real" environment that "reacts to the change of day on its own." The sounds of creatures in the forest change from day to night, and the Pandoran plants glow by night, Rohde said. Rohde took his team on field trips to Hawaii, Bali and China for design inspiration from real landscapes and cultural touchstones.

Box Office Top 20: 'Fast 8' snags global debut record

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Fate of the Furious," the eighth movie in the "Fast and the Furious" series may have fallen short of $100 million in North American theaters, collecting $98.8 million, but it still solidified its spot as the biggest global opener of all time with $532 million worldwide.

The previous record-holder, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" launched with $529 globally in 2015.

Domestically, "Fast 8" is the second-highest opener of the series, behind 2015's "Furious 7," which opened to $147.2 million—a number many attributed to increased interest in the film following the death of star Paul Walker before the film was finished.

Holdovers populated the rest of the top five at the box office, with "The Boss Baby" in second with $16 million and "Beauty and the Beast" in third place with $13.7 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. **"The Fate of the Furious,"** Universal, $98,786,705, 4,310 locations, $22,920 average, $98,786,705, 1 week.
2. **"The Boss Baby,"** 20th Century Fox, $16,012,349, 3,743 locations, $4,278 average, $116,793,579, 3 weeks.
3. **"Beauty and the Beast,"** Disney, $13,705,122, 3,592 locations, $3,815 average, $454,720,873, 5 weeks.
4. **"Smurfs: The Lost Village,"** Sony, $6,714,300, 3,610 locations, $1,860 average, $24,945,059, 2 weeks.
5. **"Going In Style,"** Warner Bros., $6,288,402, 3,076 locations, $2,044 average, $23,318,880, 2 weeks.
6. **"Gifted,"** Fox Searchlight, $3,079,308, 1,146 locations, $2,687 average, $4,449,330, 2 weeks.
7. **"Get Out,"** Universal, $2,985,945, 1,424 locations, $2,097 average, $167,615,960, 8 weeks.
8. **"Power Rangers,"** Lionsgate, $2,814,175, 2,171 locations, $1,296 average, $80,527,923, 4 weeks.
9. **"The Case For Christ,"** Pure Flix, $2,758,271, 1,386 locations, $1,990 average, $8,485,975, 2 weeks.
10. **"Kong: Skull Island,"** Warner Bros., $2,707,371, 2,018 locations, $1,342 average, $161,284,775, 6 weeks.
11. **"Ghost In The Shell,"** Paramount, $2,463,906, 2,135 locations, $1,154 average, $37,087,189, 3 weeks.
12. **"The Zookeeper's Wife,"** Focus Features, $2,023,845, 1,057 locations, $1,915 average, $10,626,800, 3 weeks.
13. **"Logan,"** 20th Century Fox, $1,937,295, 1,415 locations, $1,369 average, $221,656,574, 7 weeks.
14. **"Your Name,"** FUNimation Films, $736,113, 290 locations, $2,538 average, $3,372,170, 2 weeks.
15. **"The Shack,"** Lionsgate, $654,814, 1,048 locations, $625 average, $56,078,874, 7 weeks.
16. **"Life,"** Sony, $632,193, 605 locations, $1,045 average, $28,591,649, 4 weeks.
17. **"Colossal,"** Neon Rated, $462,869, 98 locations, $4,723 average, $616,344, 2 weeks.
18. **"The Lego Batman Movie,"** Warner Bros., $376,681, 344 locations, $1,095 average, $173,818,349, 10 weeks.
19. **"Their Finest,"** STX Entertainment, $346,779, 52 locations, $6,669 average, $460,569, 2 weeks.
20. **"Split,"** Universal, $281,095, 128 locations, $2,196 average, $137,827,505, 13 weeks.



AP

This image released by Universal Pictures shows Charlize Theron, left, and Vin Diesel in "The Fate of the Furious."

James Gunn to write, direct 'Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Marvel's continuing space opera "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" has yet to hit theaters, but plans are already in the works for the third installment.

On Monday, James Gunn announced on Facebook that he would be returning to write and direct "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3." Gunn also wrote and directed the first and second "Guardians" films.

The franchise stars Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista and features the voices of Bradley Cooper and Vin Diesel.

In his post, Gunn said that "Guardians 3" will come after 2018's "Avengers: Infinity War" and conclude the story of this iteration of Guardians of the Galaxy, helping to launch Marvel's next 10 years.

"Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" hits theaters on May 5.

GLAAD to honor Debra Messing at annual awards ceremony

NEW YORK (AP)—Debra Messing will be honored May 6 at the GLAAD Media Awards as a champion against discrimination.

The media LGBTQ advocacy organization announced Monday it will give the "Will & Grace" actress the Excellence in Media award at its 28th annual ceremony, to be hosted by Ross Mathews. Previous winners include Robert De Niro, Russell Simmons, Glenn Close and Diane Sawyer.

Messing, a longtime ally to the LGBTQ community, won an Emmy in 2003 for her "Will & Grace" character Grace Adler. The NBC show was instrumental in changing hearts and minds of countless Americans as among the first on prime-time network television to feature out gay lead characters.

It ran for eight seasons and will soon return to NBC.



AP

This July 13, 2016 file photo shows actress Debra Messing at the premiere of "Cafe Society", in New York.

Police investigating club fight involving singer Chris Brown

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Police in Florida are investigating an incident at a nightclub where a photographer said he was "sucker punched" by singer Chris Brown.

Tampa police spokesman Stephen Hegarty says 28-year-old Bennie Vines Jr. was hired by Aja Channelside to take photos during an event hosted by Brown.

Vines told officers that while he was snapping photos early Monday, Brown punched him. Brown was gone by the time officers arrived. Vines refused medical treatment and told officers he wants to prosecute because of a minor lip cut.

The club confirmed the incident on its Facebook page Monday and apologized to patrons.

Brown, singer of the hits "Run It!" and "Deuces," completed probation in a 2009 felony assault case for an attack on singer Rihanna, his then-girlfriend.

Wife used to swinging free now feels one string attached

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been into swinging for 20 years. Everything has always been "no strings attached." I was with one man several times before he married his current wife. She's very religious, not into swinging and doesn't know he is.

I'm so attracted to "Nick" that I dream about him and have met him outside our marriages. I know it's wrong, but I can't keep him out of my mind. My husband doesn't know, and I know it would hurt him deeply. Should I tell Nick, or quit writing him on our swinging site?

DESPAIR DOWN SOUTH

DEAR DESPAIR: And what have you to gain by revealing your feelings? If you think it would make Nick leave his wife, forget it. Because you know it would hurt your husband—although I'm having trouble understanding why, because you're swingers—I recommend you refrain from causing him pain.

DEAR ABBY: My family has been put in a difficult position. Last year, a woman my brother had a one-night-stand with became pregnant. I have heard from more than one person that she's known as the town tramp or "crazy."

We're sure she planned it because he makes a good living and can support the child financially, and she insisted on keeping the baby. My brother, God bless him, is doing what's necessary, although having a child with a woman he has come to despise weighs heavily on him.

How should we, his family, handle this? At this point, I have no interest in laying eyes on her or her baby, blood kin or not. I feel no affinity for the child because I know my brother didn't want it. Maybe in time, I could find a way to know this child, but for now my anger prevents it.

LIVID SISTER IN TEXAS

DEAR LIVID: None of this is the fault of the baby. No one forced your brother to sleep with the "town tramp." I respect him for living up to his responsibilities to his child.

You have nothing to lose by being kind to your nephew/niece and his/her mother. Frankly, it appears she could use befriending, and in the years ahead that baby may need a stabilizing female influence.

DEAR ABBY: My new father-in-law always greets me with a hug and a kiss on the mouth. I come from a family who doesn't kiss on the lips, and I find it extremely awkward. I'm not sure how to handle the situation.

I don't want to bring it up to him because I'm afraid it would be offensive. I have mentioned it to my husband, who kind of shrugged it off, saying his father is "old school." I have started turning my head when we greet so that he hits my cheek instead of my mouth. Please advise me on how to deal with this.

TURNING A CHEEK IN MICHIGAN

DEAR TURNING: I think you're handling the situation well. If your father-in-law asks why you're turning your head, all you have to do is smile and say you save kisses on the mouth for your husband.

P.S. I don't know what "old school" your father-in-law attended, but I wouldn't set foot on that campus.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

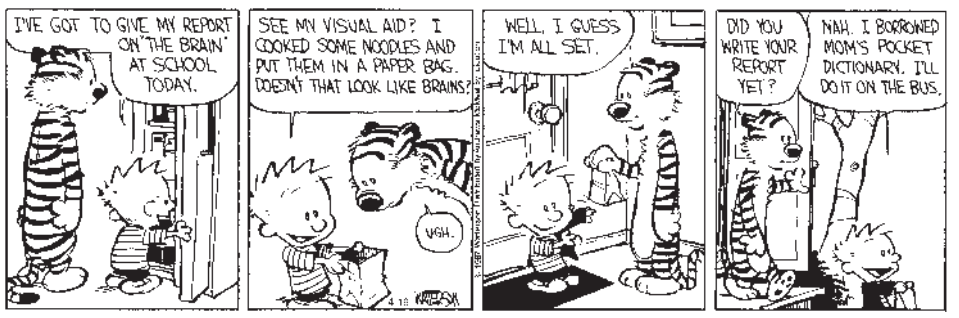


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



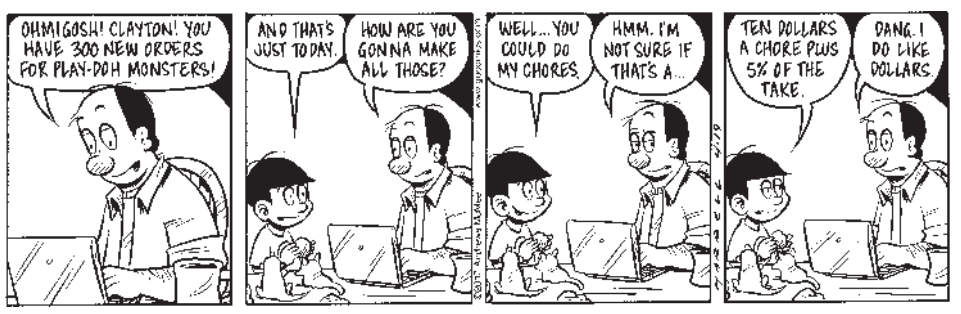
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



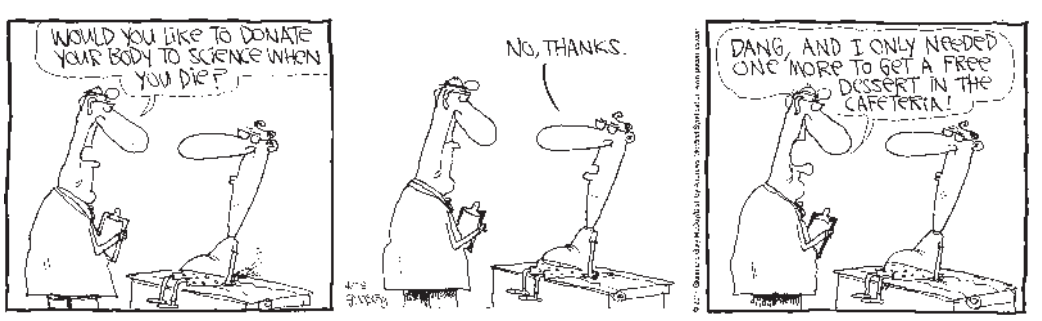
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pear type
5 Air safety org.
8 Med. plan options
12 Golden rule word
13 Dadaist Jean
14 Canyon comeback
15 Country singer Reba
17 Related
18 Soon-to-be grad
19 AM/FM devices
21 Roman 151
22 Show ennui
23 Goal
26 N.J. neighbor
28 Head lights?
31 Grade-school basics
33 Hot tub
35 Longings
36 Acid type
38 NBC show since 1975
40 Even so
41 Salamander
43 "Mazel —!"
45 Gas rating number
47 Warnings
51 Castle
52 "Bridesmaids" actress Melissa
54 Church area
55 Luau bowlful
56 TV chef Paula
57 Cowardly Lion portrayer
58 Conclude
59 "Woe —!"

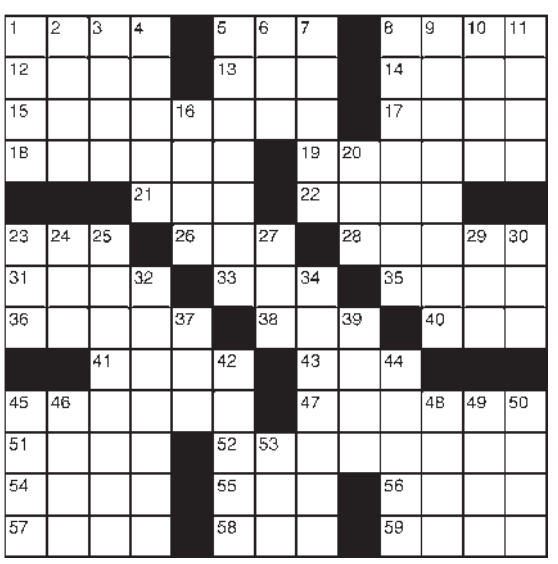
DOWN

1 Vagrants
2 Formerly
3 British gun
4 Funnel-shaped
5 Sprites
6 Schedule abbr.
7 Mimic's forte
8 Progress
9 25th U.S. president
10 Buckeye state
11 Male children
16 Snitched
20 Contented sound
23 Motorist's org.
24 "Big Blue"
25 Apple variety
27 Vinyl records
29 "A Chorus Line" song
30 Retired jet
32 Athletic shoe
34 Tummy soother
37 Possess
39 "Damn Yankees" vamp
42 Arizona city
44 "Aida" composer
45 Exam format
46 Club in a Manilow song
48 Numbered rds.
49 Not us
50 "Auld Lang —"
53 Swindle

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 4-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Hayden Christensen, 36; Kate Hudson, 38; James Franco, 39; Ashley Judd, 49.

Happy Birthday: A steady pace and a thoughtful attitude will help you avoid being pressured by someone using emotional tactics this year. Work out any trivial matters in your own head before sharing with people who are likely to oppose you. Focus on making personal growth and achieving physical wellness. Keep your goals reasonable and your plans doable. Choose peace and love over discord and despair. Your numbers are 8, 19, 23, 26, 33, 41, 49.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: Good fortune will be the result of hard work and showing the determination to reach your goals. Don't let what others do influence you. Make choices based on what will encourage you to stay healthy, knowledgeable and in control. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*: Proceed with caution when dealing with professional matters or situations that could affect your reputation. It's best to listen carefully and play it safe when dealing with people who tend to be unpredictable. Physical health and fitness are important. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*: Put more thought behind your actions. It's in your best interest to consider how your decisions will influence others. Set an example and refuse to give in to anyone who is trying to pressure you to spend money or make a donation. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*: Money and emotions will lead to mistakes. Don't let anyone guilt you into paying for something that you don't want or aren't responsible for. Concentrate on matters that will improve your position and your reputation, not someone else's. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*: Stay cool when faced with opposition. Take responsibility for your actions and follow through with your plans. Your strength, courage and determination will make a difference when dealing with others. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*: Good fortune is within your reach. Don't let the demands of others hold you back. Take care of your responsibilities quickly and get back on track. If you want to get ahead, dedication, belief and hard work will be required. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*: Emotions will be difficult to tame. Take your time and don't let anyone push you into something you aren't ready to face. Don't say something you'll regret. Look inward and you'll find the right way to approach a big decision. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*: Keep a tight rein on emotional situations. Protect your reputation by offering honest answers that will not jeopardize your position. Only state facts or you will be accused of spreading rumors. Choose creative outlets over unnecessary conversations. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*: You'll have to be realistic if you want to avoid discord. Don't pick a fight or lead someone on when you should be looking inward and working on bringing about the positive changes that will enhance your life. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*: Trouble could occur if you disagree with a friend, relative or neighbor. Look for a diplomatic way to solve your differences to avoid being shunned. Compromise will help you build good relationships that will lead to positive sharing. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: Your emotional drive and passion will see you through, even if you are physically depleted. The changes you bring about will be well worth your time and effort and could open up the door to a new beginning. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*: Visit someone who grounds you or helps you see the bright side of whatever situation you face. An opportunity to travel or learn something new will influence a decision you need to make. A partnership will leave you feeling confused. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, expressive and passionate. You are curious and adventuresome.

Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

				6				
			1		9			
		2				1		
		8		4		9		
	3	5				7	6	
9	1	7		5		3	2	4
		1				4		
	4	9	6		3	2	5	
5	2			7			8	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

2	9	8	7	5	1	3	6	4
1	3	6	8	4	2	9	5	7
5	7	4	3	9	6	2	8	1
3	8	9	6	7	4	1	2	5
6	5	2	1	8	3	4	7	9
7	4	1	9	2	5	8	3	6
4	2	7	5	1	8	6	9	3
9	1	3	2	6	7	5	4	8
8	6	5	4	3	9	7	1	2

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SORRY, I GOTTA RUN! Solution: 7 letters

C	I	T	C	E	H	R	A	D	N	E	L	A	C	C
Y	R	E	V	I	L	E	D	E	R	U	T	C	E	L
T	R	A	F	F	I	C	M	Y	G	T	S	A	F	O
C	E	X	C	U	S	E	D	A	R	H	R	F	R	C
L	O	O	H	C	S	B	O	L	T	U	O	O	U	K
A	Y	D	I	P	A	R	S	E	N	P	S	M	H	A
S	T	S	E	R	O	H	C	D	O	S	H	H	E	S
S	U	E	D	I	N	N	E	R	P	W	R	R	I	S
E	D	D	O	V	E	R	D	U	E	O	O	F	C	I
Y	B	E	T	P	T	B	R	F	T	T	R	T	I	G
B	E	N	S	A	H	T	R	C	S	E	X	I	T	N
D	H	T	K	R	R	U	O	I	N	H	Ⓑ	M	N	M
O	I	I	S	T	C	D	R	Z	S	I	Ⓞ	E	A	E
O	N	S	A	Y	N	G	Y	R	N	K	Ⓙ	P	R	N
G	D	T	T	F	I	W	S	D	Y	S	H	I	F	T

©2017 Andrews McMeel www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 4/19

Assignment, Behind, Bind, Bolt, Brisk, Calendar, Chores, Class, Clock, Curfew, Delayed, Delivery, Dentist, Dinner, Doctor, Drop Off, Duty, Excused, Exit, Fast, Frantic, Frenzy, Goodbye, Gym, Hectic, Home, Hurry, Job, Lecture, Overdue, Party, Rapid, Rush, School, Shift, Shop, Short, Speedy, Spurt, Store, Swift, Tardy, Tasks, Time, Traffic, Undertaking

Yesterday's Answer: Portable

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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High School Computer Science Teacher. Minimum Requirements for Position: Bachelor's degree in Computer Science (may be foreign equivalent) and one (1) year experience as a high school computer science teacher or college computer science teacher (any job title).

High School Math Teacher. Minimum Requirements for Position: Bachelor's degree in Mathematics or Engineering, any field (may be foreign equivalent) and one (1) year experience as a high school math teacher.

High School Science Teacher. Minimum Requirements for Position: Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry or Physics (may be foreign equivalent) and one (1) year experience in job offered in high school biology, chemistry or physics teacher.

If interested, send curriculum vitae to Mr. Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, President, Mount Carmel School, Inc. by mail to Post Office Box 500006, Saipan, MP 96950 or email to galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com. Verification of qualifications required upon request.

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Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone No.: 234-7909/783-7909

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption of:	)	FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION NO.: 17-0092
L'wina Lynn Dela Cruz Atalig, Minor Child	)	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
By:	)	
Edwin F. Atalig and Laureen DLC. Atalig, Petitioners	)	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 8, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 4th day of April, 2017.

Clerk of Court
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Century Tours, Inc. invites qualified U.S. worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

Sales Associate (3)
High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales. Must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

Interested applicants may send their applications to ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than **5:00PM on April 26, 2017**. Applications for Employment are available at the Front Office of Century Tours Inc. located on the Ground Floor of Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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- Deal with maintenance issues, and equipment and building and landscaping.
- Establish good working relationship with external parties, suppliers, travel agencies, event organizers.
- Inspect and ensure maintenance of all facilities and ensure compliance with all health and safety requirements and other local government compliance and licensing issues.

REQUIREMENTS
- Proven experience as a Hotel manager, or relevant role.
- Understanding of all hotel management best practices and relevant laws and guidelines.
- Excellent customer service skills.
- Demonstrate aptitude in decision making and problem solving.
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- Degree or proven relevant experience in Hotel/Hospitality management or relevant field.

PREFERRED
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COMPENSATION
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Irving scores 37, Cavs hold on to beat Pacers

CLEVELAND (AP)—Blown leads. Defensive breakdowns. Bad shots. None of it means anything to LeBron James.

The only score that matters is 2-0.

Kyrie Irving scored 37 points, Kevin Love added 27, James had 25 and the Cleveland Cavaliers avoided another fourth-quarter collapse in Game 2, beating the Indiana Pacers 117-111 on Monday night to take a 2-0 lead in the series.

After giving up a late lead and squeaking out the opener by just a point, James and Co. showed more intensity on defense, more swagger in general and held on to win their 10th straight first-round game over the past three seasons.

However, the defending champions, following a pattern that began late in the regular season, nearly gave away an 18-point lead in the fourth as the Pacers crawled within four in the final minute before Cleveland closed it out at the foul line.

Still, James came away encouraged. The Cavs are finding their groove.

"We're right there," he said. "We're really close to what we can become."

James added 10 rebounds and seven assists while winning his 19th straight game in the first round. He did have eight of Cleveland's 19 turnovers, miscues that allowed the Pacers to hang around.

Game 3 is Thursday night at Indianapolis.

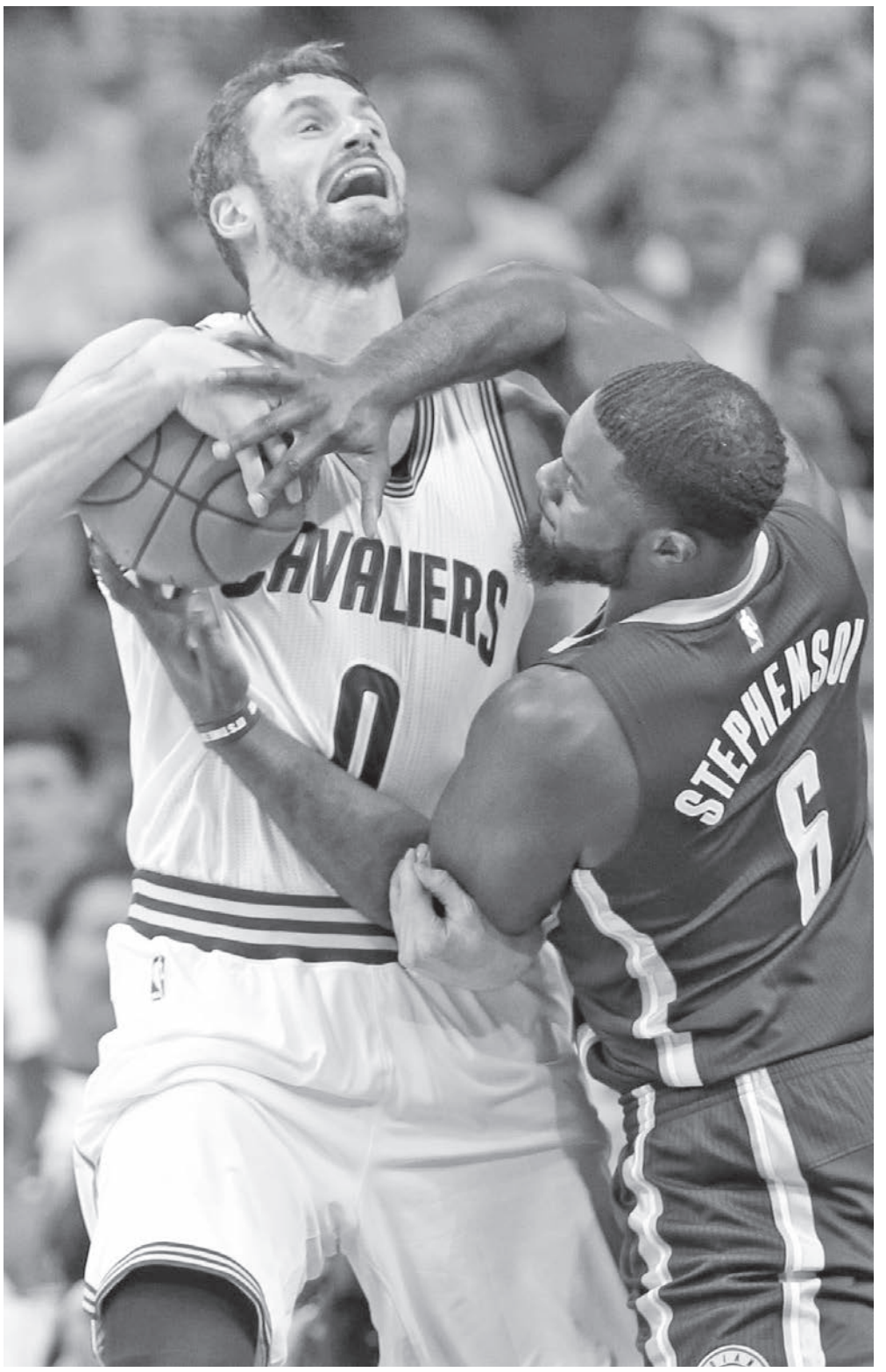
Paul George scored 32 and Jeff Teague 23 for Indiana, which showed more fight, but now has a steep hill to climb to get back in the series. Cleveland is 12-0 when starting 2-0 in the postseason.

Teague injured his right wrist in the second half and coach Nate McMillan said the starting guard will undergo X-rays.

The Cavs vowed they would play better after their near-disaster in Game 1 and they mostly backed up their talk, delivering the kind of performance that was routine last season but rare in 2017.

In the third quarter, Cleveland took advantage of a mismatch underneath and pounded the ball inside to Love, who scored 10 straight and drew a charging foul on Lance Stephenson in a span of two minutes as the Cavs opened an 89-70 lead.

Irving closed the period by draining a 3-pointer over Stephenson and the All-Star made sure Indiana's antagonizing guard knew about it, yapping in his direction long after the horn sounded.



AP

Indiana Pacers' Lance Stephenson (6) fouls Cleveland Cavaliers' Kevin Love (0) in the second half in Game 2 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series, Monday, April 17, 2017, in Cleveland. The Cavaliers won, 117-111.

"I thought we lost our composure and got frantic out there," McMillan said of his team's third-quarter meltdown. "We lost our poise and wasn't calm during that third quarter. And that was big."

The Pacers regrouped, ripped off 13 straight points and were within 113-109 when George hit a 3-pointer with 20 seconds left.

Now, they're heading home in a hole they still believe they can climb from.

"We know what's at stake," C.J. Miles said. "We're going to go out there, keep trying to give them hell, keep competing and we'll get ourselves a win."

The other hitch for Cleveland was that starting guard J.R. Smith didn't play in the second half because of a left hamstring injury. Iman Shumpert, who sat out the opener, replaced Smith and played 20 solid minutes.

"Shump was unbelievable," Lue said. "He came in and made it tough on Paul George and made a couple shots for us also. We needed that spark."

Spurs 96, Grizzlies 82

In San Antonio, Kawhi Leonard had a postseason career-high 37 points and added 11 rebounds and the San Antonio Spurs beat the Memphis Grizzlies 96-82 on Monday night to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round series.

San Antonio led for all but 13 seconds in winning its 10th consecutive postseason game over Memphis.

Leonard finished the game 9 for 14 from the field and was 19 for 19 on free throws.

Tony Parker added 15 points for the Spurs, who had three others score in double figures.

Mike Conley scored 24 points, Zach Randolph had 18 points and Marc Gasol added 12 points for the Grizzlies.

Game 3 is Thursday night in Memphis.

The Grizzlies forced seven turnovers while outscoring the Spurs 34-19 in the opening 16 minutes of the second half. Conley, Gasol and Randolph accounted for 21 points.

Memphis closed within 75-71 early in the fourth quarter, but San Antonio responded with 3-pointers by Parker and Pau Gasol in rebuilding their double-digit lead.

San Antonio had a better start than in Game 1. Leonard made sure of that.

Leonard opened the game by making his first three shots and four free throws as the Spurs built a 13-point lead, the same deficit they faced in the opening period Saturday.

Unlike Game 1, there was no coming back from that deficit for Memphis.

San Antonio had a 26-point lead in the first half on the strength of its outside shooting. The Spurs only had 12 points in the paint, but got two 3-pointers from Parker and Danny Green, in building a 26-point lead in the first half.

After 60-loss season, Nets not looking to rush the rebuild

NEW YORK (AP)—The Brooklyn Nets own two first-round draft picks, though not the one that has a 25 percent chance of being No. 1 overall.

They have money to spend in free agency, if they want to go that route.

So there are ways to upgrade the worst team in the NBA.

They just won't rush it.

"Listen, I know we have big strides to make and 20 wins, not enough. It's not good enough for any of us, but I do think we're going to reap the benefits of going through this struggle," coach Kenny Atkinson said Monday.

The Nets finished 20-62 in their first season under Atkinson, getting most of those victories during the final two months of the season. It was expected to be a rough season and it was, as they undertake a rebuilding process under general manager Sean Marks after years of sometimes reckless spending that never brought them close to a championship.

They won't get near one anytime soon, either. Marks used the work "strategically" about a half-dozen times Monday in his season-ending news conference to describe the way he will build the team.

The easiest chance for an immediate score in a promising draft is long gone, because the Nets have to swap picks with Boston as they continuing paying for the trade that landed them Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett. So the Celtics will have no worse than the No. 4 pick in the draft.

But the Nets do have the Celtics' pick and acquired Washington's during the season, giving them two selections later in the first round.

"I like having two picks, that's for sure," Marks said. "I think it just gives us another swing at it."

Beyond that, the Nets could try to sign a veteran star to become the headliner of the team, but that doesn't sound like the plan.

"I think we've got to really evaluate the roster and if you go after one of the top-tier guys, you obviously would hope to get them— you hope to get all your targets that you go for— but does that really make you better? Does it get you to 30 wins, 35 wins?" Marks said.

"The objective here is for us to be in the playoffs. When that comes, we'll have to wait and see, but you don't want to go and sign free agents and next thing your payroll is capped out and so forth and you're a 25-win team."

Nets executives are bound this week for Europe, where they will meet with Russian owner Mikhail Prokhorov and do some scouting. The makeup of the roster for next season seems wide open beyond point guard Jeremy Lin, with center Brook Lopez perennial trade bait even as he adapted his game well this season to fit Atkinson's offense.

Prokhorov, who once longed to win a championship within five years, now seems on board with a gradual rebuild.

It took time to get the Nets into the situation they're in, and they're prepared to take time to get out.

"Obviously the losses weren't easy but I did understand, I think we understood what we're getting into and I know in the long run that the adversity that we had to face, it's almost like you deserve to face that," Atkinson said.

"So I kind of like that process and looking back on it, having to fight through some tough times, I think that's going to make us better in the long run. But I know it's one foot in front of the other.

In Miami, the NBA draft lottery is in May, the draft happens in June and free agency arrives in July.

The Miami Heat aren't hurrying toward any of them.

Changing from the normal end-of-season schedule, the Heat have told players— whether they're about to become free agents or not— that they're welcome to stick around and keep working over the coming weeks. So while Monday was the start of the traditional exit meetings with coach Erik Spoelstra and team officials, it wasn't a true parting of ways for the offseason.

"It's cleanup day, not clean-out day," Spoelstra said. "Lockers are still going to be there. We want our guys to still feel at home here. Free agency is going to happen. A lot of our players are going to have free-agent possibilities or opportunities in July. But that's July."

Yanks beat White Sox to extend streak to eight

NEW YORK (AP)—The way Jordan Montgomery keeps his cool on the mound, it's hard to believe he's a rookie.

The way the New York Yankees keep winning games lately, it's easy to forget who they're missing.

Montgomery took a shutout into the seventh inning for his first major league win, Matt Holliday hit a three-run homer in his return to the lineup and the Yankees romped to their eighth consecutive victory by beating the Chicago White Sox 7-4 on Monday night.

"We've just kind of found a nice rhythm and a nice recipe," Holliday said.

The veteran slugger triggered a five-run third with a titanic shot into the raised bleachers beyond the left-center bullpen, his first home run at Yankee Stadium. Aaron Judge added a two-run drive to chase Derek Holland (1-2) with the score 7-0 in the fifth.

Despite playing without injured catcher Gary Sanchez and shortstop Didi Gregorius, the Baby Bombers have rebounded from a 1-4 start with the club's longest winning streak since a 10-game run in June 2012.

"We've got guys in this room that can handle their business and are showing it," backup catcher Austin Romine said. "They want that opportunity."

Making his second career start, Montgomery (1-0) immediately found himself in a first-inning jam. But the 24-year-old lefty calmly pitched out of it by setting down slumping cleanup hitter Jose Abreu and streaking Avisail Garcia with runners at second and third.

"Just went out there and kind of stayed within myself," said Montgomery, who pitched in the College World Series as a South Carolina freshman. "Hopefully the first of many, so I'm not trying to make too big a deal of it."

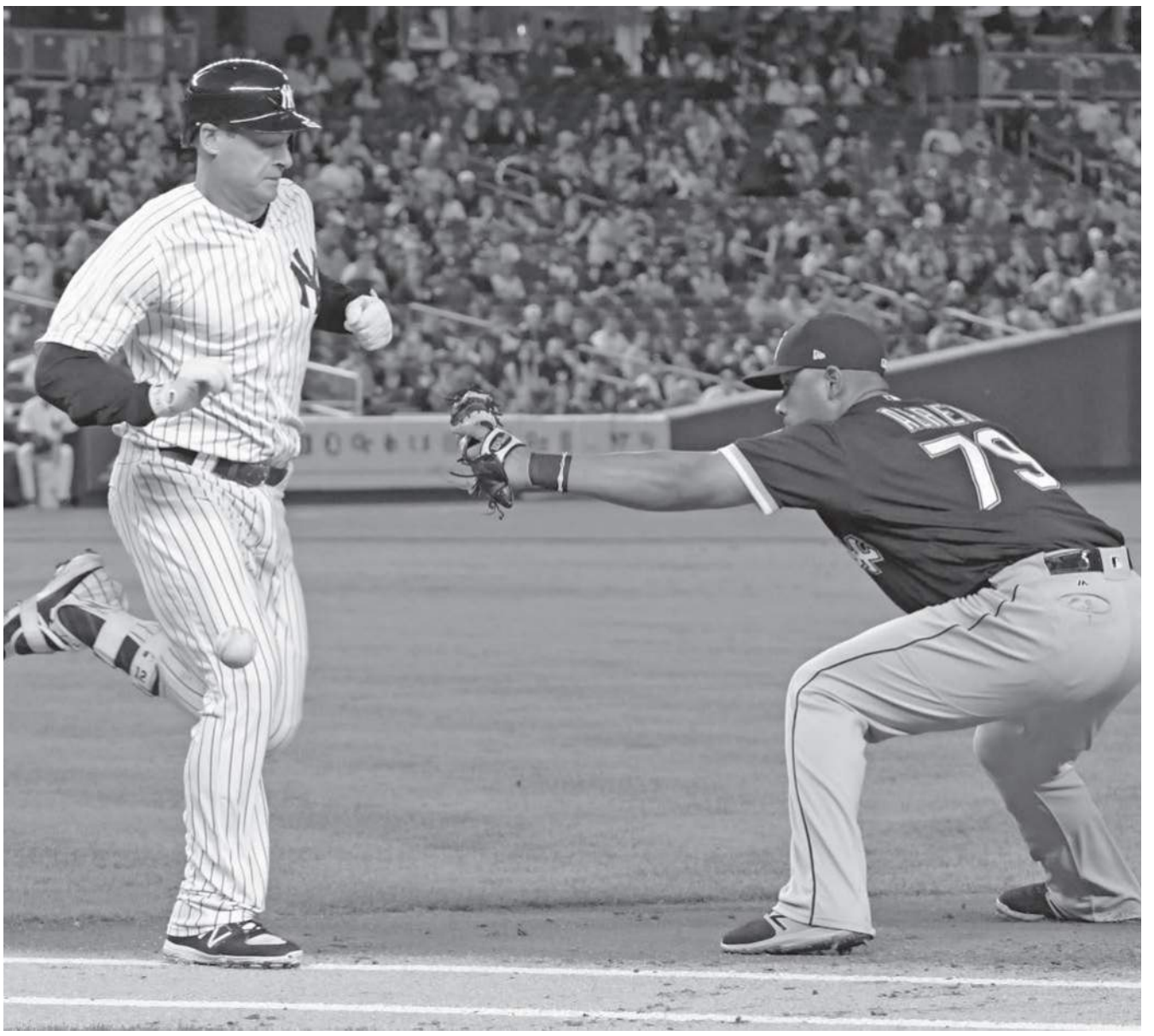
Garcia began the night leading the majors with a .465 batting average, yet Montgomery never flinched.

"He's got poise beyond his years," Holliday said. "He's got a very veteran demeanor to him."

After scattering four hits over the first six innings, Montgomery gave up consecutive singles to start the seventh and then a three-run homer to Yolmer Sanchez, who finished with three hits.

That was it for the 6-foot-6 Montgomery, who jogged off the field to cheers.

"He showed that he is a very good pitcher and that he has the talent to pitch in the big leagues," Abreu said through a translator.



AP

New York Yankees third baseman Chase Headley, left, runs to first as the ball gets by Chicago White Sox first baseman Jose Abreu during a baseball game, Monday, April 17, 2017, at Yankee Stadium in New York. Headley was safe on a throwing error by Chicago White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson.

Brewers 6, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Eric Thames homered in his club record-tying fifth straight game and streaking Milwaukee beat Chicago.

Milwaukee never trailed after Thames hit an opposite-field homer to snap a 3-3 tie in the third inning. Jeromy Burnitz was the other Brewer to homer in five straight games in August of 1997.

Ryan Braun and Jeff Bandy also went deep for Milwaukee, the only team to hit as many as three homers in a game off Chicago starter John Lackey (1-2) last season.

Brewers starter Chase Anderson (2-0) pitched five innings of three-run, seven-hit ball to pick up the victory.

Braves 5, Padres 4

In Atlanta, Dansby Swanson hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning and Atlanta, boosted by Freddie Freeman's two home runs, beat San Diego for a four-game sweep in its first series at SunTrust Park.

Swanson's bases-loaded hit fell just in front of diving left fielder Allen Cordoba. The Braves have followed a five-game losing streak with five straight wins.

Jim Johnson (2-0) pitched the ninth.

Kurt Suzuki hit a one-out single in the Braves ninth off closer Brandon Maurer (0-1). With two outs, pinch runner Chase d'Arnaud advanced to third on Emilio Bonifacio's bloop single in front of Cordoba's dive.

An intentional walk to Ender Inciarte loaded the bases for Swanson, whose first career game-ending hit again fell beyond the reach of a charging Cordoba.

Red Sox 4, Rays 3

In Boston, Andrew Benintendi hit a go-ahead, two-run single as Boston scored three unearned runs following a dropped throw by second baseman Brad Miller and beat Tampa Bay in the annual Patriots' Day game.

Knuckleballer Steven Wright (1-1) allowed three runs—one earned—and nine hits in six innings as Boston won its third straight. Craig Kimbrel struck out the side in the ninth for a save for the third straight day, his sixth this season.

Blake Snell (0-2) gave up four runs—one earned—and seven hits in five innings. The Rays completed a 1-6 trip that followed a franchise-best 5-2 start.

Indians 3, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Danny Salazar finished six innings strong after a shaky start, Michael Brantley homered and drove in two runs and Cleveland beat Minnesota.

Salazar (1-1) struck out seven and retired 15 of his last 18 batters after allowing five hits and one walk over a seven-batter stretch spanning the first two innings.

Brantley took Kyle Gibson (0-2) deep in the fifth inning, raising his career average in 13 at-bats against the Twins right-hander to .385 with four RBI.

Cody Allen loaded the bases in the ninth, but he completed his third save by getting Joe Mauer to fly out to center field.

Astros 3, Angels 0

In Houston, Charlie Morton and three relievers combined for a five-hitter, Jose Altuve drove in two runs and Houston beat Los Angeles for its fifth straight win.

Morton (1-1) worked in and out of trouble over five innings, allowing five hits and two walks with three strikeouts. Chris Devenski followed Morton with two perfect innings, Luke Gregerson threw a perfect eighth and Ken Giles pitched the ninth for his third save. Astros pitchers retired the last 14 batters.

Jesse Chavez (1-2) allowed two runs and seven hits over a season-high seven innings.

Cardinals 2, Pirates 1

In St. Louis, Lance Lynn pitched seven shutout innings, Kolten Wong homered and St. Louis stopped a three-game losing streak.

The Cardinals, who had lost six of seven, are 4-9 and still have the worst record in the NL.

Lynn (1-1) allowed three hits and struck out five while walking one. Seung-Hwan Oh worked around an RBI double by pinch hitter Gregory Polanco in the ninth to record the Cardinals' first save of the season.

Ivan Nova (1-2) gave up five hits and no walks in eight innings while striking out three.

Rangers 7, Athletics 0

In Oakland, A.J. Griffin pitched six scoreless innings in his return to the Oakland Coliseum, Nomar Mazara had two hits and three RBIS, and the Rangers beat the Athletics.

Carlos Gomez and Mike Napoli added two RBI apiece to help Texas end a three-game skid.

Griffin (2-0) spent his first two seasons in the majors with the A's before being released near the end of 2015 after Tommy John surgery a year earlier. He hadn't pitched at the Coliseum since making his final start for Oakland on Sept. 18, 2013. He looked very comfortable in his return.

The Rangers' shaggy-haired right-hander allowed one hit and one walk, retired the final 14 batters he faced and finished with eight strikeouts—one shy of his career high.

Three Texas relievers combined for the final nine outs to complete the three-hitter.

Jharel Cotton (1-2) took the loss.

Mariners 6, Marlins 1

In Seattle, Robinson Cano and Nelson Cruz hit consecutive first-inning homers, Ariel Miranda pitched seven scoreless innings and the Mariners beat the Marlins in Ichiro Suzuki's first visit to Safeco Field as a member of the 3,000-hit club.

Miranda (1-1) allowed four singles and only one runner to reach second base while striking out five. Nick Vincent pitched a perfect eighth before Evan Scribner allowed Christian Yelich's third home run in the ninth.

The Mariners won their fourth straight after a 2-8 start.

Cano crushed a 2-1 pitch from Tom Koehler (0-1) 441 feet to right-center for his second home run, a two-run shot that scored Jarrod Dyson. Cruz followed with his second homer, lining a 1-1 pitch to center to make it 3-0.

Diamondbacks 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Jake Lamb hit a solo home run in the eighth inning and David Peralta added a run-scoring triple in the ninth to lead the Diamondbacks to a victory over the Dodgers.

J.J. Hoover (1-0) threw two scoreless innings in relief of Robbie Ray to earn the victory and Fernando Rodney blanked the Dodgers in the ninth to earn his fifth save.

It was Lamb's third homer of the season.

The Dodgers took a 2-0 lead against Ray, scoring an unearned run in the second on Logan Forsythe's sacrifice fly and taking a two-run lead on an Enrique Hernandez solo home run in the fourth. It was his first of the year.

The Diamondbacks tied it on RBI hits by A.J. Pollock and Peralta.

Chris Hatcher (0-1) pitched 2 2/3 innings and took the loss.

Luck offers no timetable for return from shoulder surgery

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Andrew Luck was eager to get back to work Monday. He's still not sure when he'll be start throwing passes.

Three months after undergoing shoulder surgery, the Indianapolis Colts quarterback showed up for opening day of offseason workouts looking fit, trim and minus the sling he'd been wearing to protect his right arm.

"I am where the physical therapists, trainers and doctors say I am. I'm not going to worry about it.," Luck said, declining to provide a timetable for his expected return. "I have full trust in the guys helping me out. I want to play, I want to play, but I'm not going to worry about it."

Team officials have already said they don't expect Luck to participate in much - if any - on-field drills between now and the end of June's three-day mini-camp.

The hope is Luck will be healthy enough to return to action for the start of training camp. And there's little doubt the Colts will be patient after watching their franchise player endure two straight injury-plagued seasons.

Luck acknowledged Monday for the first time that his physical woes began at Tennessee in Week 3 of the 2015 season. Luck led the Colts to a come-from-behind win that day to avoid a 0-3 start, but the most indelible image from the game was the sideline video of then backup quarterback Matt Hasselbeck tapping Luck on the chest. Luck winced in pain.



AP

In this Dec. 18, 2016, file photo, Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck speaks to the media following an NFL football game against the Minnesota Vikings, in Minneapolis. Luck isn't sure when he'll start throwing again and won't set a timetable for his return from shoulder surgery. Players and coaches held their first official team activities Monday, April 17, 2017, at the team complex, and for the first time Luck acknowledged that his injury problems began during a Week 3 contest at Tennessee in 2015.

Over the next four weeks, Luck downplayed the injury, though he had the first two missed games of his career.

He wound up missing nine games that season, the last seven with a lacerated kidney, before opting for rehab over surgery.

Last year, the Colts thought they could keep Luck on the field with extra time off during the week. At times it helped, but the pain eventually returned and the continued ailments prompted Luck to choose surgery after last season.

"There were times when, yeah, you play through pain, and there are times when you feel great. I've played through pain every year," Luck said. "It was a little different beast (last year) in that my practice schedule was different and altered. And there were times during the year where I would get hit in an awkward way, and it would hurt."

Until Luck is ready to go, Scott Tolzien and Stephen Morris will run plays. They are the only other quarterbacks on Indy's roster.

The problem is that Luck's spring absence could hurt the Colts in the fall because this is when he normally tries to get in sync with familiar faces and newcomers .

"I'll just let him know that I'm accountable knowing the plays, knowing that I'm a smart player," recently signed receiver Kamar Aiken said Monday. "It's letting him know I'm locked into the plays and when it's time for him to get back on the field, I'm ready to go."

Luck isn't the only Colt coming back from injuries.

Left guard Jack Mewhort and defensive end Kendall Langford both finished last season on injured reserve with bad knees. Both said they felt pretty good Monday, though it's unclear how much work they'll do before training camp.

Defensive tackle Henry Anderson, who wasn't the same after coming back from a torn ACL in his right knee last year, said Monday he's more confident in cutting on his right leg this year.

Coach Chuck Pagano was not available Monday. General manager Chris Ballard is scheduled to take questions Wednesday.

But the biggest questions surround Luck—and right now there aren't many answers.

"At first, it's a little weird, especially when you're in a sling, that's really odd. But once you're in a routine, it's like anything else, you're in a routine," Luck said. "It was my decision, ultimately. The team gave me all the resources I felt like I needed to make the best decision, and I have no regrets about having surgery."

McCown, Jets get started on 1st day of offseason program

In New York, Josh McCown has been through this plenty during his NFL career.

The New York Jets are the 10th team the veteran quarterback has been with since 2002, so he's sort of an expert in getting acquainted with teammates in new surroundings.

"It's always good to get back started, especially when you are coming to a new team," McCown said Monday in quotes issued by the team, which reported for its first day of the offseason program at its training facility in Florham Park, New Jersey. "It's good to meet everyone and get acclimated. But it's the first day in a long process and I'm excited to be part of it."

McCown was signed in March to a one-year, $6 million contract to try to help stabilize the Jets' shaky quarterback situation. Ryan Fitzpatrick and Geno Smith became free agents and weren't re-signed, leaving New York only with the unproven Bryce Petty and Christian Hackenberg at the position.

The 37-year-old McCown, who spent the past two seasons in Cleveland, is the front-runner for the Jets' starting job.

But the quarterback spot is far from settled. New York holds the No. 6 overall pick in the draft and could opt to take one of the top available passers -- perhaps Clemson's Deshaun Watson or North Carolina's Mitchell Trubisky -- at the spot.

After Fitzpatrick struggled mightily and was benched for the second time, Petty took over and did little to cement his status as the team's potential starter before a shoulder injury ended his season. The 2015 fourth-rounder out of Baylor spent the offseason rehabilitating his left (non-throwing) shoulder and recharging.

OLEAI

From Page 28

ized surface.

"I was told it will take up to 20 days to dry up the asphalt. They poured it in early this month and if I am not mistaken, we're on the ninth day (yesterday). After that, they will begin working on the rubberized surface. The materials are all on island, so if the weather will cooperate, we will have the track back third or last week of May," Rogolifoi said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

After the rubberized surface is put into place, it has to be dried up, too and cleaned/flattened, while markings will be done last. The track will retain its reddish color.

As for the Ada Gym, Rogolifoi said they are just waiting for the project specification from the contractor and they are hoping to receive it before the month ends.

The NMSA executive director said the flooring of the gym will be replaced with an appropriate one—unlike the previous materials that were for household use. Materials for the new flooring are available in Guam, so it will be much easier for the contractor to bring them to Saipan.

Besides the floor, the dilapidated scoreboard will also be replaced with a new one, while leaks on the roofs will be fixed. The offices at the Ada gym will also be renovated with the floors and ceiling to undergo repairs/replacements. Completion of these improvements will take three to four months, according to Rogolifoi.

Funding for the resurfacing works at the Oleai track and the renovation of the Ada gym both came from local and federal agencies and improvements are being done in preparation for the CNMI's hosting of the Pacific Mini Games for the first time.

The quadrennial meet will come to Saipan in 2021 and the Pacific Games Council would like to see improvements from the various sports facilities on island a few years before the competition is held here. Last year, Council president Vidhya Lakhan and executive director Andrew Minogue had a three-day visit on Saipan to check the facilities and talk to the people involved in bringing the Mini Games to Saipan. They are expected to meet with NMSA officials and other stakeholders in December in Vanuatu to get updates on the Commonwealth's preparation for the hosting of the 2021 event.

KENTO

From Page 28

course. The race began at 6am and cut-off time was one and a half hours with the last finisher making it to Micro Beach with about six minutes to spare.

"The event was a huge success. Despite the choppy conditions there were several first time crossers. It was a great way to start the morning," said coach Jacoby Winkfield of the organizing Saipan Swim Club.

"The Saipan Swim club would like to thank all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to organize this year's swim. Thanks to the Department of Public Safety, Boating Safety for the excellent protection on the water as well as rest of the safety crew who battled the choppy waters to ensure the participants made the crossing. Thank you too to Eddie Johnson and his World Resort lifeguards and the extra level of safety they add to the event," he added.

The 2017 Escape from Managaha was among the last few races in SSC's calendar of events for the 2016-2017 season.

Next weekend (April 29), SSS will have the 2017 Sak Sprint Meet, which will be on its second year and is being held in recognition of club founders Bil and Jeane Sakovich. The meet will run from 7am to 11am at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Then from June 30 to July 2, SSC will send its swimmers to Hawaii for the 69th Keo Nakama Swim Meet that will take place in Mililani, Oahu.

"Thanks to Doug Brennan and Atkins Kroll (Saipan) Toyota whose contribution will go to supporting SSC swimmers in the 69th Keo Nakama Swim Meet. The 'Keo' a premier long-course meet which attracts clubs from Hawaii, U.S.mainland, and club teams worldwide," Winkfield said.

NATIBU

From Page 28

skills, as it led from start to finish to remain unbeaten in the division.

Joaquin Fleming top-scored for the Ol'Aces Elite with his 11 points and he drew enough support from his teammates, as seven of them added at least two field goals apiece.

Yang Chenxuan had 11 markers on a losing effort for Agape.

In the first game in the boys U15 last weekend, the Young Warriors defeated Kagman Rollers, 49-21.

Francisco Kumuch and Aven Evangelista stood out for the Young Warriors after logging 14 and 11 points, respectively, while no Kagman Rollers broke into double figures.

BOY U15
First Game

Young Warriors 49 — Kumuch 14, Evangelista 11, J. Norita 8, M. Norita 4, Atalig 4, Cruz , Salilin 2, Daikichy 1.

Kagman Rollers 21 — Wenio 6, J. Agulto 4, A. Agulto 4, Agustin 3, J. Cruz 2, L. Cruz 2.

Scoring by halves: 26-15, 49-21.

Third Game

Ol'Aces Elite 54 — Fleming 11, Abejo 8, Omelau 6, Laxa 6, Elchico 4, Camacho 4, Saralu 4, Oagasawara 4, Naraja 3.

Agape 42 — Chenxuan 11, Cai 9, Wang 7, S. Xu 6, T. Xu 5, Hao 2.

Scoring by halves: 26-19, 54-42.

BOYS U18

Natibu Warriors 104 — H. Aguon 26, J. Aguon 15, R. Sulap 12, Fejeran 8, T. Sulap 7, Omar 7, Kainoa 7, Malwelbug 6, Evangelista 6, Gande 4.

Agape 33 — Zhao 12, Xiong 8, Wang 7, Luke 4, John 2.

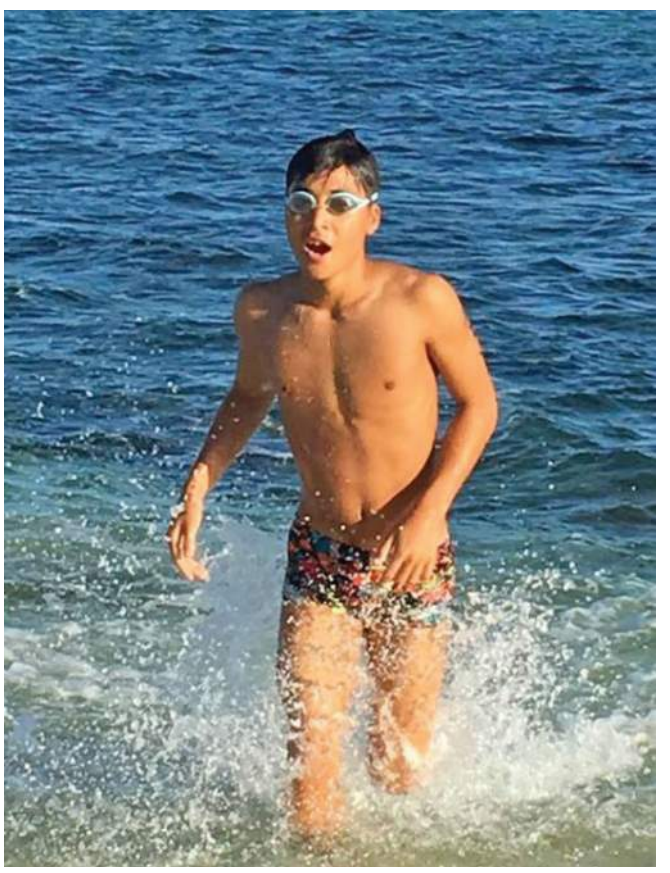
Scoring by halves: 45-12, 104-33.

2017 Escape from Managaha

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Christian Villacrusis heads to the Micro Beach shore to complete last Saturday's Escape from Managaha.



Lennosuke Suzuki runs out of the water to finish the 2.4-kilometer crossing from Managaha to Micro Beach.



David Boyer, rights, leads Taiga Sato.



Jinie Thompson makes her way to the finish line.



Jinnosuke Suzuki slows down as he nears the finish line.



Jinju Thompson, right, and Taiyo Akimaru are in a close race to the finish line.



Participants and volunteers pose for a photo at the conclusion of the 2.4-kilometer race.



Four swimmers walk their way to the Smiling Cove Dock to ride a boat to Managaha.



Irving scores 37, Cavs hold on to beat Pacers

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Yanks beat White Sox to extend streak to eight

PAGE 25



Natibu Ol'Aces Elite ease past Agape



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces Elite's Joaquin Fleming pulls up for a point-blanked shot against Agape Christian School's Tychicus Xu during the first half of their boys U15 division game in the Diaz youth caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Natibu Warriors made it past the century mark to crush Agape Christian School, 104-33, in the boys U18 division game in the 2017 Francisco M. Diaz Memorial Youth League last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Natibu capitalized on Agape's lack of manpower to cruise to victory, as the latter reported for the match with only seven players. Natibu, on the other hand, was in full force and 10 of the 14 players listed on its roster scored.

With Natibu having the advantage in the number of players, it had the game in the bag right at the end of the first half after enjoying a 45-12 advantage. Natibu went on to pad its lead in the second half to hand Agape a beating.

Henry Aguon paced Natibu with his 26 points, while Jun Aguon and Rawhoo Sulap chipped in 15 and 12, respectively. Six other Natibu players contributed at least 6 points each.

Alan Zhao led Agape with his 12 markers.

In the boys U15 division, Agape also lost, as the Ol'Aces Elite posted a double-digit victory in their duel last Saturday, 54-42.

Agape showed up for the weekend match with enough players, however, the Ol'Aces Elite proved to have the better

See NATIBU on Page 26

Kento posts fastest time in Escape from Managaha

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

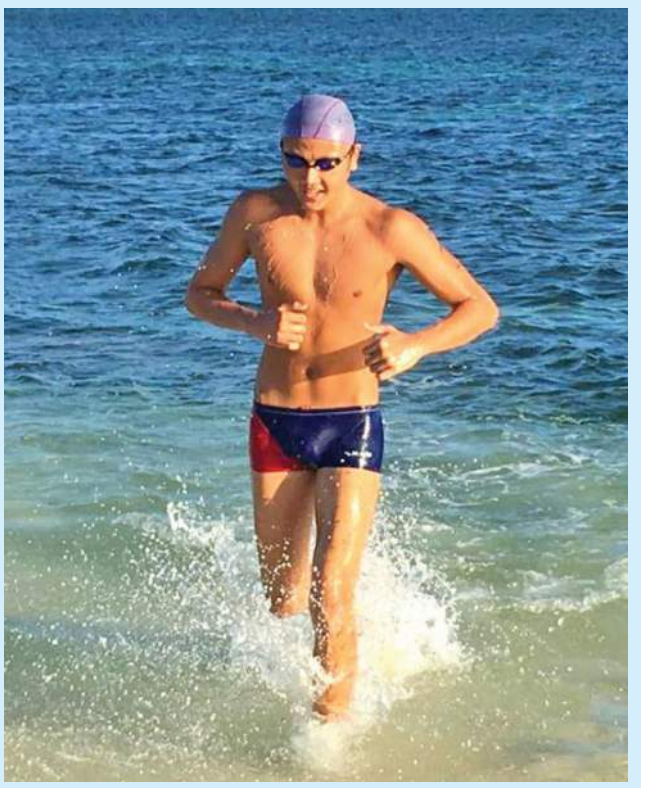
As expected, perennial first finisher Kento Akimaru completed the 2017 Escape from Managaha ahead of the pack.

Kento clocked in at 32:55 in the 2.4-kilometer crossing from Saipan's famous island to Micro Beach to rule the race for the eighth straight year. His time in last Saturday's swim was also his fastest since he started dominating the swim in 2011. The Then 10-year-old Kento posted 40:04 to lead the finishers in the 2011 race. His other times were 38:09 (2012), 38:00 (2013), 36:50 (2014), 38:06 (2015), and 33:25 (2016).

Joining Akimaru in the Top 3 of last weekend's Escape from Managaha were Jinnosuke Suzuki and Christian Villacrusis, who submitted 33:39 and 35:44, respectively. Last year's No. 2 finisher and Jinnosuke's brother, Lennosuke, dropped to fourth place with his 36:05, while David Boyer rounded out the Top 5 after recording 36: 37.

Forty-five out of the 47 who started the race made it to the finish line with some using fins and snorkels to complete the challenging

See KENTO on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kento Akimaru rushes to the Micro Beach shore to complete last Saturday's 2017 Escape from Managaha.

Oleai track nears completion; Ada Gym repairs to start soon

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Good news.

The repair works at the Oleai Sports Complex's track and field facility is on schedule, while the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium will undergo the needed facelift soon.

Tony Rogolifoi, executive director of Northern Marianas Sports Association, which is in charge of the management and maintenance of the two facilities, said that the contractor doing the resurfacing work at the track is just waiting for the asphalt to dry so it can proceed with the pouring of the rubber-

See OLEAI on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A peeled off portion of the flooring of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium is shown here during a game in the Diaz youth caging yesterday.